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ABSTRACT

The 50-year history of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association (OVATA) was prepared for the purpose of enabling members and others to gain a better understanding of the history, growth, and development of the OVATA, and to identify objectives, activities, and accomplishments of the organization. The history is organized into three divisions: a descriptive history of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association, chronological activities of OVATA, and the Women's Auxiliary. The narrative discusses membership activities, State policies for vocational education in agriculture, program planning, providing assistance for teachrs, fostering public understanding, and the development of the FFA (Future Farmers of America) and YFA (Young Farmers Association). An appendix includes information about the executive committee, former presidents, and award recipients. The creed and constitution of the organization are also appended. (Author/NJ)

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EDUCATION FOR AGRICULTURE

A HISTORY OF THE OHIO VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE
TEACHERS ASSOCIATION — 1925 - 1975

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EDUCATION FOR AGRICULTURE

A HISTORY OF THE OHIO VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION – 1925 - 1975

By

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and

Ralph J. Woodin

Published by
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FOREWORD

Every organization of man has a history. A history of yesterdays can be most helpful in making decisions for today.

History is like a river which starts out small in the high country and continues to broaden as it nears the ocean. Along the path of the river, many factors change its waters. Some tend to add to its sparkle and wholesomeness. Some, like pollutants, tend to cause it to become less valuable. All of these constituents blended together pass each point further downstream. Each contributant upstream has added its value for better or worse. If man is to make the best use of the river, he needs to know what factors have changed the river along the way and be able to dispell those of a negative value and use those positively offered.

The OVATA has made 50 years of growth. Most of the activities of the association over these 50 years have been for the improvement of agricultural education in Ohio. If the OVATA is to continue to improve, its past history needs to be studied, preserved and built upon.

The OVATA cannot and will not live in the past. A river, even though it is affected by each addition along the way, is not pushed by its past, but rather is pulled by what lies ahead. To a river, the pull is gravity. The motivating force for the OVATA in the future should continue to be the needs of the students of vocational agriculture. There is no greater challenge than that of educating students who will produce and process the food and fiber for future generations of mankind.

The 1975 convention marks the completion of 50 years of conferences and seminars under OVATA's professional leadership.

The purposes of the association, according to the Constitution of the OVATA are:

1. To promote vocational education in agriculture
2. To coordinate the work of the different departments of vocational agriculture
3. To set up an advisory relationship to supervision and teacher education for formulation of policies

4

4. To provide a means for promoting and conducting district activities

This history has been prepared for the purpose of enabling OVATA members and others to gain a better understanding of the history, growth and development of the OVATA and to identify objectives, activities and accomplishments of the organization. The history has been organized into the following three divisions: *Section I, A Descriptive History of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association; Section II, Chronological Activities of the OVATA;* and *Section III, The Women's Auxiliary.* An appendix is also included.

It was found in the preparation of this history that many of the events in the past have been lost due to a poor system of keeping historical data. It is suggested that an historian be added as an officer of the organization and that this person keep records that will enable this history to be updated at appropriate times in the future.

We celebrate a proud 50-year history, but look forward to an even greater and more rewarding future. We dedicate this publication to all of those OVATA members that have contributed to the development of this program in Ohio and to its history through service and dedication to the improvement of vocational agriculture and of mankind.

Robert McBride, President

Ohio Vocational Agriculture
Teachers Association

1974 - 1975

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special appreciation is extended to Ralph J. Woodin and Warren G. Weiler for their dedicated and perceptive efforts in producing this 50-year history. Many others have contributed to this publication, and they also are to be commended for their service.

The narrative section of this report, including the first eight chapters, was prepared by Ralph J. Woodin, professor emeritus of the Department of Agricultural Education at The Ohio State University, who first became a member of OVATA in 1931. Dr. Woodin organized and wrote the narrative section of the history. He secured the assistance of a number of teachers and staff members to gather and interpret information for the various sections. The OVATA expresses its gratitude to these persons whose records and written recollections greatly enriched this history. These contributors included Welch Barnett, supervisor, Columbus; Ralph E. Bender, head teacher educator, Columbus; Glen Boling, supervisor, Smithville; Leon Boucher, teacher educator, Columbus; Leslie F. Crabbe, supervisor, Columbus; James E. Dougan, Assistant Director of Vocational Education, Columbus; Gilbert S. Guiler, teacher educator, Columbus; Richard L. Hummel, supervisor, Columbus; Earl Kantner, supervisor, Columbus; Jack Nowels, teacher, Loudonville; Harlan E. Ridenour, Curriculum Materials Director, Columbus; F. J. Ruble, retired supervisor, Columbus; and Willard H. Wolf, retired teacher educator, Columbus. The pictures used to illustrate this history add an important dimension. With a few exceptions, these photographs were taken over a 35-year period by Leslie F. Crabbe and Ralph J. Woodin of the state staff.

The chronological section of this history presented in Chapter IX was prepared by Warren G. Weiler, retired state supervisor of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Service. Mr. Weiler first became a member of the OVATA in 1930 and served as president of the organization in 1934. Mr. Weiler organized the chronological section of the history after reading many of the old minutes and conference programs preserved by Julius Kreglow and Horace Hummell, interviewing many people with years of experience, and corresponding with more than 100 retired vocational agriculture teachers and OVATA members.

Mrs. Warren G. Weiler prepared the Women's Auxiliary section of this history which is found in Chapter X. Mrs. Weiler kept a history of this Auxiliary over the years and was able to prepare an excellent account of this group. Mrs. Weiler has made many major contributions to OVATA and we are deeply grateful for her efforts. Mrs. Weiler has never missed a meeting of the Auxiliary since it was organized.

Finally appreciation is expressed to Harlan E. Ridenour, Director of the Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum Materials Service, for his work and that of his staff in the editing, layout and art work, and final preparation of this history for publication.

Like most OVATA activities, this history has involved the efforts of many persons and, as usually happens, a fine team effort has been made. Our association appreciates the efforts of all those who have been a part of the team.

Robert McBride

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EDUCATION FOR AGRICULTURE

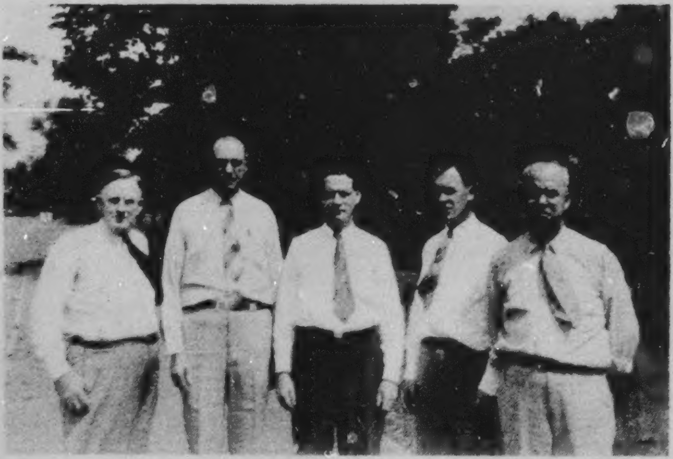
A HISTORY OF THE OHIO VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION – 1925 - 1975

I. THE SEARCH FOR GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Fifty years ago in the Southern Hotel in Columbus, Ohio, a new teachers' group was organized known today as The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. During these 50 years, growth, change and improvement have taken place in every segment of education but perhaps in no other area of education has a professional organization of teachers had a greater influence on an educational program than this organization has had on vocational agriculture in the state. This anniversary provides an opportunity to list, record and evaluate some of the many happenings and developments in which the association has participated.

THE TEACHER-STAFF PARTNERSHIP

Vocational agriculture in Ohio has had strong leaders from the very first among teachers and among the staff, which includes the supervisors and administrators of the State Department of Education and the teacher education department at The Ohio State University. As the new program began in Ohio high schools individual differences in schools, in communities and teachers made it necessary that the state staff, charged with directing and administering the program, find a means of guiding, helping and cooperating with teachers through some organized means so as to develop a unified coherent program. To teachers and staff alike, the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association (OVATA) represented a mechanism by which this cooperative effort might be developed. Fifty years of productive and cooperative effort have generously fulfilled the promise which those early leaders saw for the new organization.



Supervisory staff members in 1948 included *(left to right):* L. B. Fidler, supervisor of farm veterans teachers; W. G. Weiler, FFA executive secretary; R. A. Howard, state supervisor; and F. J. Ruble and E. O. Bolender, district supervisors.

Those who knew such pioneer teachers as George Krill of Ashland, O. C. Duke of Medina, R. G. McMurray of Dresden or John Everett of Monroeville recognized them as forceful, articulate and courageous leaders. Their judgments were sought by other teachers; thus, they were important to the success of educational innovations in the program. Such teachers, and there have been many of them, had a sound philosophy and were enthusiastically supported by their clientele and administrators which enabled them to lay all of their cards on the table as future policies for agricultural education were discussed. At the same time, much professional leadership came from staff members with similar backgrounds and with equally strong convictions. Early examples included Ray Fife, first state supervisor, and W. F. Stewart, first teacher educator. OVATA as a professional organization became a means by which a unified state program could be developed with leadership contributions from both teachers and staff members.

Fortunately a pattern of democratic operation evolved in professional meetings which developed into a working relationship on a high professional plane. The deliberations of OVATA at executive committee meetings, at teachers' conferences and at district meetings were generally marked by attempts to reach mutually satisfying decisions rather than through force and an adversary relationship. Ralph A. Howard, who was Ohio's second state supervisor of vocational agriculture, was a democratic leader in the finest sense and he established an excellent tradition in working with OVATA officers and committees. This important tradition, established and fostered over the years, has had the support of teachers and staff as a way of working together to accomplish professional goals.

PURPOSE OF THE OVATA HISTORY

As OVATA officers in 1974 discussed the possibility of a written history of the organization, the basic question, "What should a history do for us?" was raised. The officers' answer was that, in the process of becoming an important professional institution, this organization has identified, tried and tested many processes and procedures which have helped individual teachers – their students – and thereby, the whole educational enterprise, and that future leaders in agricultural education can profit from such experiences. It is the purpose of this brief history, therefore, not only to identify dates, events, people and places – the usual components of history – but also to document some of the larger and more meaningful developments and to show how this organization helped bring them about.

Probably one of the most important ways education has influenced the nation has been through the development of enduring institutions which continue to fulfill their purposes for years after their initial start. Across Ohio, rural churches, Granges and other farmers' cooperatives are examples of such institutions which depend upon their own membership for much of their support, strength and leadership and, at the same time, make use of professional full-time leaders. OVATA has likewise made effective use of such sources of leadership.

The OVATA has become an institution! During the first 50 years of its being, it has served its members well. It has been an important member of the family of educational organizations both in Ohio and on the national scene. Finally, it has derived its strength from the support of an overwhelming majority of its members for a series of activities they believed important and from the fact that much of the leadership comes from the membership. It seems likely that, if these strengths continue along with the ability to adapt to change, the organization can look forward to a bright and useful future in serving its members, serving agriculture in Ohio, and enriching the entire educational enterprise.

VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS HAVE BEEN UNIQUE

Institutions generally reflect the character of their individual members and, over this 50-year period, this holds true for the individual vocational agriculture teacher and his influence upon his professional organization. Early Ohio vocational

Minerva FFA Chapter had a regular radio broadcast over station KDKA in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1929.

agriculture teachers had a strong leader in E. O. Bolender, their first chairman in 1921. Bolender, like his fellow teachers, was in a program only five years old. Already, however, certain characteristics of these teachers marked them as different from other teachers and these unique differences have continued in teachers to this day.

The vocational agriculture teacher in the twenties and in 1975 place their individual students first on their priority lists. Teachers through the years have intimately known the student, his parents and his home situation. This knowledge plus a burning desire to help each student develop to his maximum in terms of his opportunities and abilities has made the vocational agriculture teacher a special kind of teacher. These teachers have generally been more concerned with the lifetime success of their students than with the mere learning of agricultural subject matter.

The fact that Bolender and his cohorts in 1922 had received a special kind of teacher education from W. F. Stewart and Ray Fife probably heightened this understanding of student needs. This desire for student success shows up in OVATA's 50 years of concern with student-centered activities beginning with district judging contests and continuing with its support of the many activities of the Ohio FFA Association.

Most teachers through the years have seen themselves not as mere teachers but as directors of local programs of agricultural education which have included young farmers and adults as well as high school students. They have held the idea that communities differ in terms of people, institutions and nationality backgrounds, as well as in agricultural business, crops and livestock and that, as a result, vocational agriculture programs should have unique differences – planned with the help of community leaders. With this background on the part of the membership, it was natural that OVATA plan annual programs designed for meeting Ohio problems and the needs of its teacher members.

Agriculture has been something of a religion for teachers for over 50 years. Most of the early teachers had the common experience of growing up on a family farm or of a number of years' experience in an agricultural occupation. Likewise, most of them have been graduates of an agricultural college where the importance of agriculture has been demonstrated again and again. Such backgrounds have given them ready acceptance in the agricultural organizations of their communities and the state.

Teachers of vocational agriculture in 1925 saw advantages of working together cooperatively on certain projects while, at the same time, retaining their highly valued individuality. In their districts, they wanted to organize livestock judging contests, farmer cooperatives and pest hunts. They needed to develop exhibits for

Recognized for 30 years in teaching were these leaders and wives. *Left to right:* Mr. and Mrs. C. V. Donnell, Deshler; Mr. and Mrs. C. O. Headlee, West Lafayette; Mr. George Gray, Butler; and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Mengert, Orrville.

the county fair and to get together for travel to the annual conference. It was natural for them to use an organization to get things done. They had usually belonged to Townshend Society in the College of Agriculture, and had been members of agricultural cooperatives; hence, they used their professional organization from the first to work out together activities which they couldn't accomplish alone. The program of activities of OVATA shows they were still doing this in 1975.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES OF OVATA

The goals and purposes of an organization must change with the times and yet, like the constitution of a nation, they must include enduring ideas which provide a foundation of guidance over the years.

The first constitution and by-laws of OVATA were developed bv the officers in 1926[1]. The purposes of the OVATA were listed in this document as follows:

1. To promote vocational education in agriculture
2. To coordinate the work of different departments in each section of the state
3. To set up an advisory relationship to supervision and teacher training for the formulation of policies
4. To provide a means of promoting and conducting sectional activities

This constitution provided for meetings of the executive committee at least twice each year, a business meeting at the annual conferences, and for officers including a chairman, vice chairman and secretary-treasurer.

In their publication, *Understanding Your Professional Organization*,[2] a brochure published for the membership in 1971, the following purposes are listed:

1. To assume and maintain an active leadership in promotion of agricultural education
2. To bring together vocational agriculture educators through membership in a state organization devoted exclusively to their interests
3. To assist district and/or county organizations of agricultural education in the solution of their problems

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[1] Unpublished Constitution and By-laws. Columbus, OH: The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. 1971, 6 pp.

[2] *Understanding Your Professional Organization.* Columbus, OH: The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. 1974, 6 pp.

Assistant Director James E. Dougan (left) receives an honorary membership in 1973 from the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association presented by Odell Miller who was vice president of NVATA.

4. To cooperate with other vocational and professional organizations

There is considerable similarity between these two statements even though there was a time span of nearly 45 years. Both stress promotion, leadership, policy development and relationships with other similar organizations.

Strikingly similar are the purposes of the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association of which OVATA is an affiliated state organization.[3] The NVATA purposes are listed on the following page:

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[3] *Constitution of the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association* as amended December 8, 1973. Lincoln, NB: The National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. 1974.

1. To assume and maintain an active national leadership in the promotion and furtherance of agricultural education
2. To bring together all vocational agriculture teachers through membership in a national organization devoted exclusively to their interests
3. To provide an opportunity for agricultural teachers to discuss all problems affecting agricultural education on a national level
4. To serve state or local organizations of agricultural teachers in the solution of any problems which may arise
5. To have and possess all the rights, powers and privileges given to corporations by common law
6. To cooperate with the American Vocational Association in furthering the cause of all vocational education

PERCEIVED GOALS OF OVATA

While the purposes of the organization have been broadly set forth in the constitution, the real goals of an organization are often indicated by its month-to-month and year-to-year activities. Keeping this in mind, an analysis was made by the author of OVATA activities over the past 50 years. Each of these activities was related to major goals which, in turn, stemmed from the constitutional purposes of the organization. This process resulted in identifying the following major goals and supporting activities which, in turn, become the framework of this section of the history and the titles of subsequent chapters.

GOALS AND SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES OF THE OHIO VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Goal 1. To develop professional leadership among members of the OVATA

Supporting activities include the work of the annual teachers conference, the executive committee and its organization, cooperation with American Vocational Association and Ohio Vocational Association, the recognition banquet, and NVATA-sponsored activities.

Goal 2. To encourage membership and participation in OVATA and affiliated organizations on the part of all teachers and staff

Supporting activities include encouraging district activities supporting membership, and encouraging membership from new teachers and specially certified teachers in the new taxonomies.

Goal 3. To develop, interpret and help implement useful and appropriate state policies for the improvement of vocational agriculture in the public schools of Ohio

Policies have been cooperatively developed for teacher travel, reimbursement for local programs, program standards, teacher certification, teacher education, programs for joint vocational schools, in-service education and programs for agricultural technicians.

Goal 4. To help teachers plan and evaluate meaningful and workable programs

Supporting activities include supervisory encouragement of local program planning, state-wide efforts in program planning, appraisal of local programs and participation on PRIDE.

Goal 5. To assist teachers in improving their teaching through improved methods and materials

Supporting activities include the development and distribution of curriculum materials, and the efforts of the teaching aids committee.

Goal 6. To promote and foster public understanding through an effective public relations program

Supporting activities include a variety of state and local activities, publications for members and state and local fairs and the judging contests.

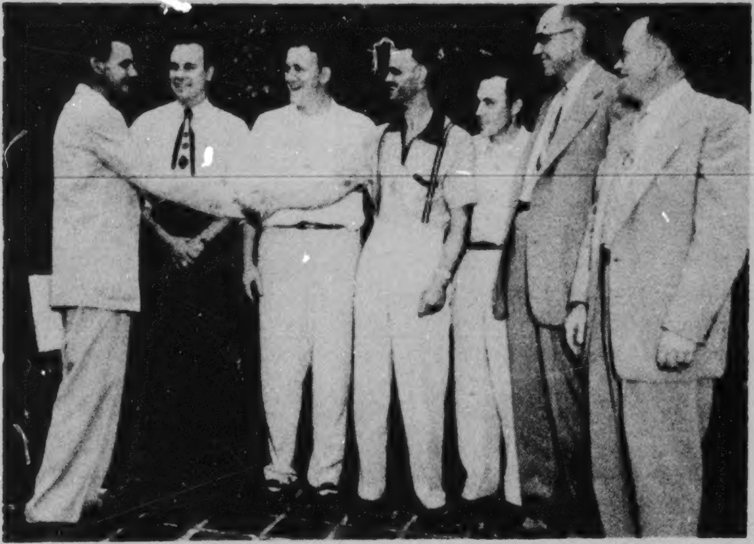
Goal 7. To assist teachers in developing and strengthening the student organizations with which they work

Supporting activities include establishment of the FFA and parallel activities for the Ohio Young Farmers Association.

II. DEVELOPING PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AMONG OVATA MEMBERS

Although not a stated purpose of the OVATA, the leadership experience afforded a large proportion of the membership has been a definite advantage to individual members. Hundreds of teachers over this fifty-year period have received invaluable professional experience as they have served as officers at state and district levels on advisory boards to the FFA and Young Farmers Association (YFA). Others have worked on such special committees as recruitment, teaching aids and as delegates to meetings of their national association NVATA. Over 100 members or one-fifth of the membership are so involved each year.

Proof of the value of this experience lies in the professional advancement of those who have left teaching for related fields of endeavor. Among these can be listed top administrators in agribusiness and in agricultural education departments in several leading universities. These members also include a USDA Chief of Extension, three college deans and many key leaders in Ohio and in the nation.



President Dallas Cornett (1953) and fellow OVATA officers. *Left to right:* Dallas Cornett, Pleasant Township, Marion County; W. C. Barnett, Carrollton; George Hamrick, Ross County; G. H. Griffith, Westerville; Calvin Knight, Arcadia; State Supervisor W. G. Weiler and District Supervisor James E. Dougan.

THE OVATA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The OVATA Executive Committee was established in 1926 during the state Teachers Conference. The committee consisted of the president, vice president secretary, treasurer and eleven district chairmen. These eleven district chairmen were each elected by teachers in their home districts. Most districts included 25 to 30 teachers and covered 3 to 5 counties.

The first written state-wide program of activities of the OVATA was developed by the Executive Committee and adopted by the membership at the annual teachers conference in 1928.

A list of past presidents of the organization is included in the Appendix (see Page 178).

The current constitution[1] states that the Executive Committee shall meet at least twice each year. One meeting shall be held at the time of the Annual Teachers Conference, and other meetings shall be held as determined by a majority of the Executive Committee or the officers of the association.

The state advisory committee for Ohio Agricultural Education Service at its 1974 October meeting provided for a member of the OVATA Executive Committee to be appointed to this committee. Warren Reed of Crestview was the first such appointee.

In July, 1972, adoption of Article VIII of the OVATA Constitution provided for a representative of each major instructional area or taxonomy to be elected to the Executive Committee in addition to the district chairman, according to Director James E. Dougan. Representatives from instructional areas having 20 or more units have one vote. Those areas having less than 20 units were to be represented in an advisory capacity only.

Action was taken at the annual meeting of the OVATA on July 8, 1974, to establish for the first time the office of president elect, and to add this individual as a member of the Executive Committee. Alfred Cramton of Lynchburg-Clay High School was the first teacher elected to this position. Presently there are 32 members of the OVATA Executive Committee including these recent additions.

For several years, the OVATA Executive Committee has been meeting for a two-day session in October and March of each year, and, in 1970, a luncheon meeting was initiated during the Annual Teachers Conference for the orientation of new

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[1] *Constitution of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association, 1974.* Columbus, OH: The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. 1974.

members of the committee. Since the Executive Committee represents all segments and programs of the total agricultural education and the FFA program in Ohio, the state staff receives the committee's recommendations and suggestions which relate to policies and operational procedures of the total program. Each member of the committee brings to the attention of the Executive Committee and the state staff concerns of teachers and their recommendations and suggestions.

The members of the OVATA Executive Committee are appointed by the officers to ten standing committees. These committees are: Annual Conference, Finance and Membership, Legislative, Professional Improvement, Public Information and Publicity, Research, Teaching Aids, Teacher Recruitment, Teacher Welfare, and Recognition Banquet. These committees have specific objectives and responsibilities determined by the total Executive Committee.

The OVATA Executive Committee reviews and makes specific recommendations to the state staff for in-service training of vocational agriculture teachers;

Planning a National Invitational Workshop in Supervision at The Ohio State University. *Left to right:* [illegible] Ruble, District Supervisor; W. G. Weiler, State Supervisor; Mark Nichols, State Director of Vocational Education of Utah; and E. O. Bolender, District Supervisor.

revision of curriculum guides; rules and regulations regarding judging contests; state standards, criteria and policies regarding agricultural education programs; state-wide FFA activities; and other important areas of the program.

Typical of the work of the Executive Committee is this summary of an October, 1969, meeting by Secretary Jack Devitt which appeared in *Ohio Agricultural Education News*, January, 1970.[2]

> One of the major items discussed at the Executive Committee meeting of OVATA October 2nd and 3rd in Columbus was the possibility of moving the Annual Conference to some place besides Columbus. Although the majority of those present were in favor of moving the conference, a motion was passed that we have the 1970 conference at OSU to help in celebrating the 100th year of that institution.
>
> James Dougan stated that the County Chairmen would be taking over the duties of the public relations and the legislative responsibilities for their county. It was moved that the County Chairman be selected for a two-year term to correspond with the district chairman's term.
>
> President Odell Miller reported on the progress of the OVATA Directory.
>
> Adrian Roberts presented a list of purposes and objectives for the OVATA.
>
> Revision of the constitution was presented by James Barnes and was accepted by the committee.
>
> Gilbert Guiler, Welch Barnett, Richard Hummel, John Watkins, John Starling, Leslie Crabbe, Paul Pulse, Harlan Ridenour, John Davis, Earl Kantner and Ralph Bender reported on their respective programs. Major action taken on the reports was a motion to increase entry fees of the state judging contest to one dollar per team member which was passed.
>
> Odell Miller reported that the tentative conference theme is: *The Role of the Vocational Agriculture Teacher in the 70's.*
>
> After the standing committee reports, the meeting was adjourned so the members could attend the OVA Convention.

The OVATA Executive Committee has had a tremendous impact upon the direction of the total agricultural education and FFA program in Ohio according to Director Dougan. He says that, as a result of being elected by their peers, a most

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[2] *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. January 1970, p. 12.

OVATA President Adrian Roberts and his fellow officers in 1968. *Left to right:* Adrian Roberts, East Clinton; L. B. Smith, Delphos, past president; Robert Phillips, vice president, Madison South; George Hyatt, Keystone, treasurer; Odell Miller, Marysville, NVATA vice president; and John Wilson, chaplain, Four County JVS.

capable group of teachers is included. Another advantage to the profession has been the opportunity for many teachers to participate in the OVATA governing body. An estimated 400 teachers have served in this capacity over the life of the association.

THE ANNUAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS CONFERENCE

The first annual vocational agriculture teachers conference was held in June, 1922, three years before the advent of OVATA with the late E. O. Bolender, then vocational agriculture teacher at Ashley, as the presiding chairman.

A review of available conference programs indicates that, throughout the years, a common format has been followed. Major topics have included in-service training of teachers; the improvement, extension and expansion of vocational agriculture and FFA in Ohio; federal and state legislation affecting vocational agriculture programs; new developments in agriculture; and new innovations, policies and recommendations.

The History of the Department of Agricultural Education at The Ohio State University[3] gives this account of teachers conferences:

> These meetings have had an important place in the in-service program for the combined staffs – teacher education and supervisory. For the first few years, meetings were held on a regional basis. This happened again for two years during World War II because of travel restrictions. However, during the other years, there have been annual conferences. Other than for a few held at the FFA Camp and the Research and Development Center, most of the conferences were at The Ohio State University. The programs throughout the years have been sponsored by the joint staffs. Up until the late twenties, the teachers were asked to give suggestions as to program content while later, the teachers through their representatives the district chairmen have been active participants in the planning.
>
> For many years, the conference in the summer time was for one week beginning on Monday morning and ending on Friday after the supervisory hour at 2:00 p.m. During these week conferences, the morning programs were usually devoted to general and inspirational topics with the afternoon set aside for upgrading teachers technically. With the conference time cut down to three days, much of the technical and informational time formerly provided had to be eliminated. The diversification of the program with fewer common problems is creating less need for long annual conferences. In contrast, more time seems to be needed for the separate groups with special interests, such as horticulture and agricultural business.

Since 1925, the annual meeting of the OVATA membership has been held during the state vocational agriculture teachers conferences. Records show that practically 100% of the teachers and state staff members have attended the conference throughout the years.

According to Director James E. Dougan, for several years the conference was held in June of each year; however, recently it has been held during the first or second week of July because of the expanded in-service training program which was conducted for teachers during June.

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[3] *The History of the Department of Agricultural Education at The Ohio State University.* Unpublished manuscript edited by Dr. Willard H. Wolf. Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. 1970, p. 104.

On October 7 and 8, 1971, a committee composed of Robert Phillips, chairman, Warren Reed, Dwain Sayre and James Dougan reviewed and revised the objectives for the annual teachers conference which currently read:

1. To improve the professional and technical competence of teachers
2. To provide an opportunity for teachers to be brought up-to-date on the latest developments in agriculture and education as they relate to teaching vocational agriculture
3. To provide teachers the opportunity to review the instructional materials and teaching aids available
4. To provide for the recognition of outstanding accomplishments of teachers
5. To provide for the state staff to share with teachers their projections, innovations and direction of the total agricultural education and FFA program in Ohio
6. To provide for the annual membership meeting of the OVATA

Recognized for 30 years' service in 1967 were *(left to right):* Mr. and Mrs. D. C. McInturf, Federal Hocking; Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Rickley, Liberty Township, Henry County; and Mr. and Mrs. John Borton, Upper Sandusky.

It was at this time that the Executive Committee of the OVATA recommended that the conference program be planned to serve teachers in all instructional areas by providing time for teachers to meet by taxonomy areas for in-service training.

MEMBERS EVALUATE THE CONFERENCE

An indication of the high regard of teachers for the annual conference is shown in this report which appeared in the October, 1968, issue of *Ohio Agricultural Education News.*[4]

> The 378 vocational agriculture teachers who participated in the annual conference at The Ohio State University, July 8 - 10, were asked to appraise the conference program in order to provide for a basis for planning an even better conference next year. An evaluation form was developed and completed by a majority of teachers attending. The overall rating of this year's conference was "Good" with 47% giving it a rating of "Good" and 25% giving a rating of "Excellent."
>
> Four out of five teachers believed that a three-day conference was more desirable than one that was either longer or shorter. This year's theme, *Planning for More Effective Teaching,* was considered "extremely valuable" by 57% of the teachers which was significantly higher than last year's rating.
>
> Other appraisals gave a rating of "quite valuable" to contributions of speakers on the conference program. The business sessions were rated "quite valuable."
>
> The special seminars were given ratings of "extremely valuable." These seminars on such topics as *Negotiating With Boards of Education, Adjusting the FFA to Non-Production Agriculture, Organizing Multiple Teacher Departments, Planning County Legislative Committees* and *New Developments in Extended Service* were a new feature of this year's conference.

COOPERATION WITH AVA AND OVA

The American Vocational Association draws its strength from the many affiliated professional organizations of teachers. The Ohio Vocational Association serves as the state-wide organization which is directly affiliated with AVA. In turn, OVATA is one of six sections of OVA. It is through the Ohio Vocational Association that delegates are chosen for AVA business meetings which in turn determine the policies for the national association.

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[4] *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. October 1968, p. 20.

OVATA has supplied important leadership to the Ohio Vocational Association since its beginnings in 1922. Among the early presidents of OVA from agricultural education were: C. F. Steiner, 1926-27; Ray Fife, 1930; L. L. Rummel, 1931-32; W. F. Stewart, 1934; J. B. McClelland, 1937; C. S. Hutchison, 1939-1940; John Leonard, 1942; Ralph Burdick, 1944; Ralph Bender, 1946; and Ralph Harner, 1948. Vice presidents of OVA from OVATA included: Ralph Burdick, 1943; Ralph Bender, 1945; Ralph Harner, 1947; and Ralph Woodin, 1948. Executive secretaries from agriculture included: C. S. Hutchison, 1935-36; and C. E. Rhoad, 1945-48.

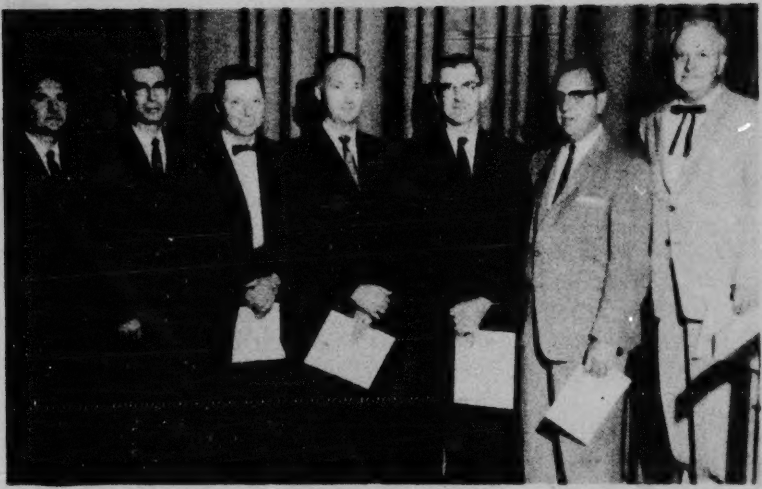
Beginning in 1948, the OVA approved of a new organizational structure which gave additional responsibilities to the constitutional sections and more authority to the Executive Committee. Four sections of membership were included in the organization. They were Agriculture, Distributive, Home Economics and Trade and Industrial Education. The presidency of OVA was rotated among these sections and a number of OVATA members served ably in this office. In each case, when an OVA president was from agricultural education, he had previously served as president of OVATA for one term of office.

OVA presidents from OVATA since 1950 have included: C. R. Fridline, Mt. Vernon in 1952; Paul Mechling, Lancaster in 1956; John Starling, Lima Shawnee in 1960; Donald H. Waliser, Carroll in 1964; Franklin Miller, Groveport in 1968; and Joe Parrish, Caldwell in 1974.

In addition to supplying a number of presidents of OVA, the OVATA was also represented by Ralph J. Woodin who served as executive secretary of OVA from 1951 to 1965. Gilbert S. Guiler served the OVA as membership secretary from 1965 to the present.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES WITH OVA AND AVA

One of OVATA's most important contributions to vocational education during the depression years was through its members' support for state and federal appropriations. Because of the popularity of local vocational agriculture programs with farmers and local businessmen, legislators soon began to see the need for continued financial support. Many individual teachers knew individual legislators and congressmen personally and they were asked by OVA to discuss the financial problems of the program with their elected representatives.



Recognized for 25 years of service in 1967 were the members of this group *(left to right):* Leon Boucher, Columbus; Franklin Deeds, Cory-Rawson; Rodger Hiller, Ashland; Henry Horstman, Anna; Fred Mengert, Arlington; Clyde Stout, Lakota; and Ralph E. Young, Holgate.

Appropriations for vocational education in Ohio from the first were made by the legislature for all services as a single appropriation and later divided within the division of vocational education. This also became true for federal appropriations after 1955. For this reason, securing funds for agricultural education was a part of providing funds for all vocational programs. Vocational agriculature teachers understood their role and their efforts were appreciated by all other vocational services.

One of the first major organized efforts for legislative assistance came in 1932 when agriculture teachers organized car loads of their constituents to meet with the legislature to protest the elimination of state funds for vocational programs. Over 300 persons appeared at finance committee hearings and partly as a result of these efforts the funds were restored. On the national scene, several attempts to eliminate federal funds for vocational education were made during the 30's and as late as 1957. OVATA members were often called upon to contact congressmen through the AVA and the OVA.

During the 50's, the OVA developed a well-organized legislative effort to increase state support for the program. This effort is described in a history of the

Ohio Vocational Association by Roger D. Roediger.[5] Each legislator received reports of vocational programs in his district and was invited to vocational classes, banquets and similar events. Each county had a legislative chairman who, in many cases, was the vocational agriculture teacher. This campaign was closely correlated with the legislative efforts of the Ohio Education Association. The results for vocational education were of great importance. Not only were state appropriations quadrupled over a five-year period but also vocational education was made an important part of the School Foundation Law of 1958 which laid an important foundation for future educational progress.

THE RECOGNITION BANQUET AND TEACHER SERVICE AWARDS

Special recognition was first given vocational agriculture teachers for years of tenure at the 1950 summer conference. According to F. J. Ruble, a long-time district supervisor, certificates were presented to teachers who had taught vocational agriculture five, ten, fifteen, twenty and twenty-five years or more. Gold keys were presented teachers with 25 years or more of service. A teacher tenure roll was developed by the supervisory staff and approved by the Executive Committee of the Association.

Teachers completed tenure record forms each year at district meetings and records were brought up-to-date at fall district meetings. Up-to-date files of tenure have been maintained by a member of the vocational agriculture supervisory staff. Names of teachers eligible for recognition during a given year were also published in a vocational agriculture newsletter prior to time of annual conference.

A special banquet committee plans the program for the banquet and awards program. The vice president of the association acts as toastmaster and heads the committee. Others on the committee are a member of the supervisory staff who checks eligibility records for awards and 2 or 3 teachers. Teachers first had a special luncheon at Pomerene Refectory during conferences at OSU in the 30's and 40's. The banquet was then held at the New Ohio Union for many years as well as at several Columbus restaurants and motels.

The Sears Roebuck Foundation first presented gold watches to teachers completing 30 years of service at the 1955 conference. They continued this special recognition through 1968. Since that time, watches have been presented by the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

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[5] Roediger, Roger D. *A History of the Ohio Vocational Association; From Organization to the Year 1960.* (Unpublished Master's Thesis, The Ohio State University, 1960), p. 52.

Watches were first awarded 30-year veterans of vocational agriculture teaching at this conference banquet at the Smithville Inn in 1955. *Seated left to right:* Sidney Fadley, Racine; W. R. Sutherland, Centralia; W. F. Stewart, Columbus; George Krill, Ashland; L. B. Fidler, Waldo; and Floyd Ruble, Columbus. *Standing left to right:* Ralph A. Howard, Columbus; A. R. Hocking, London; O. C. Duke, Medina; Robert McMurray, Dresden; E. O. Bolender, Columbus; and W. H. Wolf, Columbus.

The presentation of special awards has been a high spot at the annual conference and one much appreciated by teachers. In addition to the service awards which are given at an awards banquet, guests are recognized, honorary American Farmer Degree recipients are introduced, and officer awards are presented.

Banquets were sponsored by Sears Roebuck Foundation from 1952 to 1968; teachers have been grateful for the interest taken by Sears in the vocational program.

OVATA CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATIONAL SCENE THROUGH NVATA

The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association has had an important influence on the development of the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association and, in turn, it has been strengthened by this national organization. Because of this relationship, a brief review of NVATA history is included here.

When the NVATA was organized in its present form in Milwaukee in 1948, Ohio was represented by Clarence Fridline, David Colville and Glen Boling who were among the 89 who signed the official rolls of the meeting.

By this time, most other states like Ohio had had 20 or more years of experience with their own state organizations and this experience had an indelible influence on the new national organization.

In 1947 at the AVA convention in Los Angeles, vocational agriculture teachers from several states met to consider the possibility of forming a National Association for Teachers of Vocational Agriculture.

At the AVA convention in Milwaukee[6] December 2, 1948, Leslie Jackson of Idaho moved that a national association of teachers of vocational agriculture be organized. The motion carried by a wide margin.

About 100 vocational agriculture teachers from 31 states were present when the organization was created. Eighty-nine of those attending signed the official roll.

Lionel E. Cross of California was elected president and later executive secretary of the NVATA. Vice presidents and alternates were elected for each of the six regions. A constitution was adopted. Dues were established at $1.50 per year. By the next year, 33 states had affiliated including Ohio. Over 5,000 teachers had joined.

By 1951, the NVATA office was mailing regular newsletters to state association officers, state supervisors of vocational agriculture, teacher educators and other selected persons. These newsletters had an important influence on the Ohio association as officers learned of desirable activities carried on in other states.

In 1958, James Wall of Waverly, Nebraska, was named NVATA Executive Secretary, an office he was still holding in 1975.

About this time, the NVATA began conducting 2- or 3-day summer regional leadership conferences for state officers. The meetings have been conducted annually by the NVATA Regional Vice President for affiliated state association officers and members. According to Glen Boling, Ohio has been represented at all of these meetings by 8 to 10 delegates. Part of the members' expenses have been paid by the OVATA.

OHIOANS RECOGNIZED BY NVATA

The OVATA has been an important contributor to NVATA progress and has received considerable recognition over the years. Boling says that Ohio had 100% membership in NVATA in 1962-63; 1963-64; 1964-65; 1966-67; 1967-68; 1968-69; and that Ohio also received a State Association Award each year from 1968-69 tc date for general accomplishment and achievement. In addition, many Ohio teachers and staff members have been recognized by NVATA.

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[6] Stenzel, Sam and Wall, James E. *Professional Leadership and Service, 1948 - 1973.* Lincoln, NB: The National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. 1974, pp. 8-12.

President Jack Devitt, Ottoville, 1973, received the gavel from past president Joe Parrish of Caldwell. *Left to right:* Jack Devitt; J. E. Dougan; Robert McBride, and Joe Parrish.

Ohio teachers receiving Agricultural Teacher Recognition Awards sponsored by Pfizer and Company, New York, New York, included: Rees Hackenbracht of Bellevue for poultry in 1965 and Virgil S. Koppes of Medina for dairy in 1972. Outstanding Young Teachers Awards have included: Jay Benham, Oxford, 1969-70; Gary Bauer, Big Walnut, 1970-71; and Donald Dilgard, Ashland, 1971-72. This award was sponsored by U. S. Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

The Career Orientation Award has been sponsored by the New Holland Division of Sperry Rand Corporation. Ohio winners of this award have included Lowell McLear, Greenville in 1970; Glen H. Griffith, Westerville in 1971; and Gary Moore, Beverly in 1974. The Special Citation Award has been sponsored by NVATA and was presented to: Warren G. Weiler, State Supervisor in 1966; and Ralph J. Woodin, Professor of Agricultural Education at OSU in 1966.

Honorary memberships in NVATA have been presented to Harvey S. Firestone, Firestone Tire and Rubber Company in 1950; W. F. Stewart. Professor of Agricultural Education, OSU, 1953; A. F. Davis, Lincoln Welding Company, Cleveland, 1955; J. F. Brown, Superintendent of Schools, Lancaster, Ohio, 1956; Ralph

E. Bender, Teacher Education, OSU, 1970; Warren G. Weiler, Retired State Supervisor, 1971; and James E. Dougan, State Supervisor, 1972.

Ohio has had a number of outstanding officers in Region IV of NVATA including: D. C. Sharp, Alternate Vice President, 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52; Paul Mechling, Vice President, 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58; Lloyd Smith, Alternate Vice President, 1968-69; Odell Miller, Alternate Vice President, 1969-70; Odell Miller, Vice President, 1970-71, 1971-72 and 1972-73; and Paul Mechling, Treasurer, 1968-69.

THE BEETLES

One of the unique features of OVATA has been the firm friendships among members many of which began in the College of Agriculture and continued over the years. During the early twenties when the group numbered less than 100, every member knew each other. The annual conference provided a week's experience in living together, usually in Columbus at The Ohio State University and sometimes at the Experiment Station in Wooster. Social activities in the 20's and 30's included such informal activities as softball tourneys, horseshoes and of course many informal card games and bull sessions.

As the group grew in size from 226 in 1935 and to 575 in 1974, social activities changed but still provided a basis for friendships which made for a cohesive organization. A number of musical groups, such as *The Beetles* contributed to the development of the organization. Jack Nowels of Loudonville, a member of the Beetles, is largely responsible for this account of their activities.

THE SEARCH FOR TALENT

For many years, singing has been a part of OVATA conferences. Many conference programs have been lifted by spirited group singing under the direction of members who served as song leaders.

In the late 1940's and early 1950's, two conferences included a men's chorus providing several numbers. In the early 1950's, a barbershop quartet and a German band featuring OVATA member musicians presented several delightful numbers. One of the quartets of this era included Jack Nowels, Ward Lindemuth, Alfred Rhonemus and Raymond Rickley.

When second tenor Lindemuth and baritone Rhonemus left the profession, Glenn Gallaway and Earl Kantner were recruited to fill these vacancies. This foursome popularized a parody entitled, *Great Big Weiler on the Bank, Little Bender in* *the Pool*, which was sung to the tune of *Bulldog on the Bank, Bullfrog in the Pool*.

Nowels and Gallaway assumed top officer roles in the OVATA resulting in a lull in quartet activity. Then, OVATA President Gallaway in 1957 asked Nowels to organize a quartet which would perform during the conference program. Nowels, a first tenor, recruited veteran OVATA member Glen Boling as the second (lead) tenor, and two multi-talented youngsters in their OVATA infancy, Virgil Koppes, a bachelor baritone, and Ervin Pulse, a bass who was enjoying his honeymoon at the conference.

According to Jack Nowels, this newly formed OVATA quartet gave its first performance on June 16, 1958. It became evident after their first performance that this group might be used to add spice to certain portions of the long day's program.

By 1960, an enterprising banquet chairman invited the quartet to appear on the banquet program not only due to popular demand but also due to a limited banquet budget. This graduation to the banquet program enabled the quartet to gain more exposure and a little more time for practice.

Contrary to some conjecture, the group had some musical background. Nowels, Koppes and Pulse were members of The Ohio State University Men's Glee Club during their college days, and Boling and Nowels were members of The Ohio State University Marching Band.

The "Beetles" in orbit at the 1973 Recognition Banquet. *Left to right:* Jack Nowels, Loudonville; Glen Boling, Wooster; Virgil Koppes, Medina; and Ervin Pulse, Greenfield.

THE BEETLES EMERGE

The group was known as the OVATA Quartet until 1963 when the banquet chairman Rodger Hiller dubbed them the OVATA Beetles, the farm counterpart of the then popular Beatles. During their performances, they have also introduced their group by several other names ranging from the *Fishhouse Four* to the *Retirement Four*. The latter designation was used in their performances for a special banquet honoring Ralph J. Woodin and Willard H. Wolf who were retiring after long and meritorious service.

In planning for a typical conference banquet performance, each member collects some suitable material and brings it along to conference. Nowels owns the pitch pipe and most of the quartet music while Koppes has the biggest portfolio of jokes. After Boling and Pulse add their materials to the collection, the formation of the new act begins. First consideration is given to the conference theme and any unusual or humorous conference program happenings. Then, Boling and Nowels have the unenviable task of cleaning up Koppes' and Pulse's jokes so they will pass censor requirements.

According to Jack Nowels, the entire group works on a suitable parody and the list of song possibilities. Following a melodious session of practice on the many song possibilities, the most appropriate songs are selected and their starting pitch recorded to give "Old Dad" Boling, the lead tenor, a running start in numbers during the banquet performance.

Some of the quarter's favorite songs have been *Coney Island Baby, Wait Till the Sun Shines, Nellie; I Had a Dream, Dear;* and *Good Night, Ladies* which is sung and then hummed as Pulse highlights the finale with his "as the sun slowly slinks in the West." In humor, these sage quips are rivaled only by Koppes' "wife jokes" which appear earlier in the program.

A congenial togetherness has characterized the quarter's 17 years of harmony, joke-telling and illustrious showmanship. They have enjoyed every minute of their association. At the 1974 OVATA Banquet, President Elect Robert McBride presented each quartet member with a beautiful and useful briefcase on behalf of the OVATA. This surprise presentation should quell one of the foursome's favorite jokes about working for nothing.

Mrs. Helen Killworth, head secretary in the Department of Agricultural Education at The Ohio State University from 1926 to 1967, was a friend, counselor, confidant and helper to hundreds of graduates.

Clarence Fridline of Mt. Vernon coaches student teachers Clifford Jump (left) and Don Noah (right). Jump later taught at Mt. Vernon and Noah at Marengo.

III. MEMBERSHIP ACTIVITIES

The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association can be proud of its record of membership and member participation during the past 50 years. One measure of this support of the membership for the organization is in terms of those voluntarily paying their annual dues. The average percent of teachers paying their dues during these 50 years has been well over 90% for the entire period including periods of depression, war and expanding programs.

Membership was no problem during the twenties when less than 200 teachers were employed, when all were following a similar curriculum, and when each teacher knew every other teacher personnally. Participation was likewise important to the success of such district activities as judging contests and livestock shows. Pressure from their peers at district meetings was an important means of stimulating membership. District reports at conference likewise were important and, by 1960, an important feature of the conference was a map of Ohio showing those districts where 100% of teachers had paid their dues.

FINANCIAL PLANNING

Annual budgets and programs of activity were another feature in promoting member participation. These budgets were developed by district officers for their districts. A similar budget was also developed by the OVATA each year. As an example, the 1974-75 budget is included since it is typical of budgets in recent years (see Page 30).

It should be noted that, of the major expenditures after payment of membership dues to affiliated organization and the costs of the annual conference for 1973-74, about $2200 was available for specified activities. Of this amount, some $1300 was spent on NVATA-sponsored activities including the American Vocational Association Convention and the NVATA regional conferences for state officers. The remaining funds were used to support the work of OVATA. Committees whose activities were funded included Teacher Welfare, Public Relations, Fiftieth Anniversary and Professional Relations. Nominal contributions were also made to the Agricultural Council, the FFA Foundation, the Ohio Young Farmers Association, and the Agricultural Education Scholarship Fund. The remaining funds were used for office expenses.

As a result of prudent financial planning and spending, the association has been able to expand its financial support of such activities as sending delegates to NVATA, recruitment activities and public relations, without serious financial crises.

TABLE 1

FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND PROPOSED BUDGET

	1973 - 74		1974 - 75	
	Anticipated Income	Actual Income	Anticipated Income	Actual To Date
RECEIPTS				
Professional Dues	$24,910.00	$17,163.50	$11,660.00	
OVA Refund	530.00	447.00	530.00	
Conference Reg. & Meals	6,100.00	6,392.43	7,865.00	
Award Sponsors	500.00	629.60	500.00	
Interest Income	--------	186.89	150.00	
Money from savings or checking	--------	5,826.59	505.00	
TOTAL	$32,040.00	$30,646.01	$21,210.00	
EXPENSES				
Professional Dues				
AVA-OVA	$13,250.00	$13,885.00	000.00	
NVATA	5,300.00	5,100.00	5,300.00	
Agr. Ed. Mag.	2,650.00	2,555.00	2,650.00	
Annual Conference				
Banquet	1,200.00	3,146.49	3,750.00	
Luncheons, Programs, etc.	--------	3,799.56	4,000.00	
AVA-NVATA Conference	1,100.00	778.50	2,000.00	
NVATA Reg. Conference	300.00	589.48	300.00	
Committees:				
Welfare	100.00	12.48	100.00	
Public Relations	250.00	134.63	175.00	
Legislative	125.00	00.00	100.00	
Professional Relations	225.00	208.80	350.00	

TABLE 1 (Continued)

	1973 - 74		1974 - 75	
	Anticipated Income	Actual Income	Anticipated Income	Actual To Date
Phone, Postage, etc.	250.00	251.07	300.00	______
Ohio Agr. Council	10.00	10.00	10.00	______
FFA Foundation	50.00	50.00	50.00	______
YFA Contributing Membership	25.00	25.00	25.00	______
OSU Agr. Edu. Scholarship	100.00	100.00	100.00	______
50th Anniversary Committee	-------	-------	2,000.00	______
TOTAL	$24,935.00	$30,646.01	$21,210.00	______

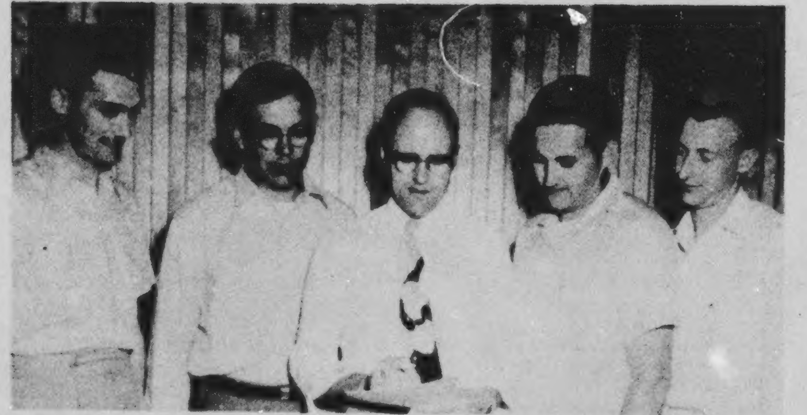
Actual Balance June 30, 1974 $11,924.59

Checking $1,042.57 Savings $10,882.02

Anticipated Closing Balance June 30, 1974 $11,420.00

Franklin Deeds, Chairman Finance Committee

Edgar Fawley, Treasurer



District officers planned their annual programs at Teachers Conference in 1953. *Left to right:* Wendell Litt, New Concord; Richard Flint, Greenwich; D. R. Purkey, Wauseon; Ivor Jones, Southeastern; and Daryl Dean, Northwestern Clark.

PROMOTING MEMBERSHIP

State staff members have contributed much to the membership effort of OVATA. They themselves have set an example by 100% membership in professional vocational associations. In addition, they have spoken out on the importance of membership in OVATA at both district and state meetings. They have also set personal examples in providing leadership in national and regional offices. Ray Fife and W. F. Stewart for example were among the first AVA officers. Fife served as president and Stewart as vice president of this organization. Later, Ralph E. Bender served as AVA vice president representing the Agricultural Division from 1968 through 1971.

One of the first serious problems of membership arose with the development of the Farm Veterans Training Program in the period from 1947 through 1953. These teachers were quickly recruited for this teaching task and were usually under the supervision of vocational agriculture teachers. They saw less reason for membership in OVATA than regular teachers and, in turn, the established vocational agriculture teachers were somewhat reluctant to give them full membership status. After much discussion, they were invited to join but, except for those who remained in vocational agriculture, only a minority joined OVATA. It was perhaps this experience with farm veteran teachers which prepared the association to more effectively assimilate the teachers of specialized agriculture programs during the late 60's.

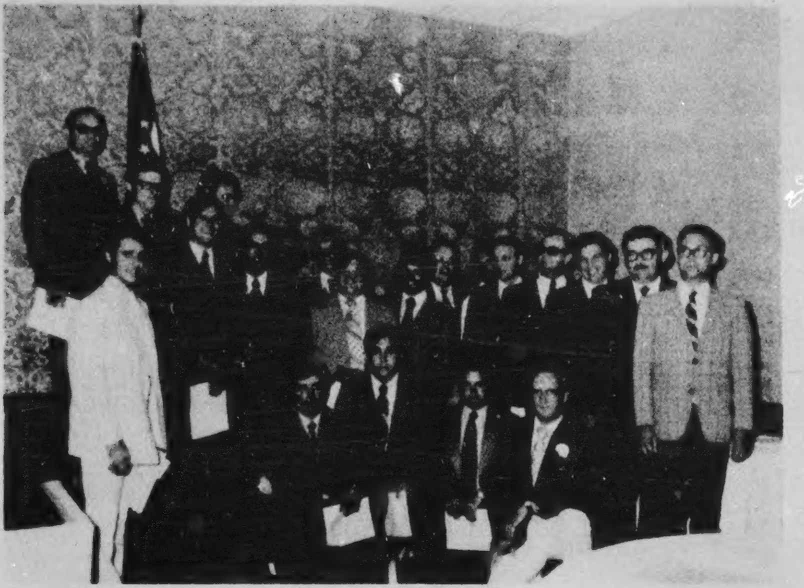
In such areas as agricultural business, mechanics, conservation, food processing and horticulture, teachers had occupational experience in their fields and were provided with teacher education on the job. Such teachers attended regular district meetings and state conferences but felt themselves in a minority.

To meet this situation, OVATA provided for representatives of each area of specialization to serve on the executive committee in 1972. This plus adjustments in district organization has resulted in a membership of over 90% of all teachers in OVATA during the 70's.

INITIATING NEW TEACHERS INTO OVATA

The importance of professional organizations to the success of the individual teacher has been emphasized in one way or another since the time of the first teachers conference in 1922. At that time, the fledgling teachers of Ohio received visits and special supervision from an itinerant teacher trainer who was a member of the state staff. At teachers conferences and at district meetings, membership dues were collected. A part of the initiation of new teachers during the 20's and 30's was often that of electing them to offices in the district organization.

A. C. Kennedy and Mrs. Kennedy received a gift from the staff at Mr. Kennedy's retirement in 1954. Mr. Kennedy taught hundreds of Ohio teachers in his agricultural mechanics classes in Ives Hall. He began teaching in one of Ohio's first departments at Medina in 1918 and was later a cooperating teacher at Worthington. *Left to right:* R. E. Bender, W. F. Stewart, L. B. Fidler, Mrs. Kennedy, Professor Kennedy, W. G. Weiler and E. O. Bolender.



This group of teachers was recognized for five years of service in 1973. The five- and ten-year groups were always largest in numbers.

The experience provided by the Agricultural Education Society and its forerunner, Townshend, also prepared future teachers for OVATA membership.

Until about 1965, almost every first-year teacher became a member of OVATA. Occasionally a maverick individual objected but the pressures of his fellow teachers plus the disapproval of staff members usually brought him into the fold. In a case or two, older OVATA members even offered to pay the dues of reluctant neophytes.

Since the beginning, new teachers have expressed a desire for an effective in-service education program. Such an effort would not be successful without the assistance of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

Each year during the annual vocational agriculture teachers conference, all new teachers are introduced individually and welcomed to their respective districts. Each new teacher is provided a copy of the Teachers Calendar for the year, a date book, and a copy of the teacher's creed by the president of the OVATA. Later, the OVATA president formally meets with new teachers at their first in-service meeting.

The in-service program for new teachers throughout the year consists of workshops and seminars at which time OVATA officers and members assist when called upon. Much encouragement is given to the new teacher to belong to his professional organizations. During the past, they have had an excellent reputation in this area of professionalism.

A new teacher cannot be expected to completely fill the shoes of veteran teachers and many from time to time, have called upon neighboring teachers for assistance in addition to the regularly planned in-service program. Fellow OVATA members have been of valuable assistance to new teachers in planning adult education and development of their total vocational agriculture programs.

Gilbert S. Guiler adds the following comments on new teachers in OVATA in a letter[1] to the author on November 1, 1974:

> Several years ago, we had 100% of the new teachers paying their professional dues, but this has seemed to decline slightly in recent years. However, the average percent of new teachers belonging to the professional organizations over the past 12 years has been about 94%.
>
> During the past years, we have used the president of the OVATA in helping with the new and returning teacher workshop discussing membership in professional organizations or some specific phase of the new teacher responsibilities which we thought the OVATA president could assume. Normally, this has been the president because of his title and responsibility. I recall involving such people as Odell Miller, Warren Reed, Bob Phillips and Jack Devitt in the new teacher workshops and seminars.
>
> Incidentally, this past September, the OVATA offered to pay one-half of the agricultural education seniors' professional dues. It was through the OVATA membership committee that this was initiated. We thought it would condition the new teachers toward what benefits are received from the total dues package.

RECRUITMENT OF FUTURE TEACHERS

Much of the leadership in OVATA has come from teachers who have been students themselves of vocational agriculture in high school. Recognizing the need for a continuing supply of superior teachers, OVATA members have been engaged

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[1] Guiler, Gilbert S. Personal letter to the author, November 1. 1974.

The "Watermelon Tea" was tradition for 35 years during summer sessions at The Ohio State University permitting teachers to get better acquainted and to meet campus personalities. This picture, taken in 1953, featured a talk by Robert Montgomery, visiting professor from Auburn University. *Left to right:* J. R. Harner, Beaver Township, Greene County; R. E. Bender, Columbus; R. W. Montgomery; Francis Miller, Firelands; and D. R. Purkey, Columbus.

in recruitment activities for some 50 years.

It was not until 1948 that an organized recruitment effort involving teachers was made. That year, Ralph A. Howard, then supervisor of vocational agriculture appointed a staff committee to recruit more students for vocational agriculture teaching.

The following information on recruitment activities was secured from *The History of the Department of Agricultural Education at The Ohio State University.*[2]

> In a letter to high school principals in 1948-49, activities included a newsletter released by The Ohio State University Bureau of Public Relations for use in school newspapers and a series of slides on recruitment developed by a committee of the Townshend Agricultural Education Society. The problems of recruitment were discussed in a joint staff meeting and a program was developed which involved efforts on the part of supervisors and teacher educators. A good response was made by about one-third of the teachers in the state.

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[2] *The History of the Department of Agricultural Education at The Ohio State University.* Unpublished manuscript edited by Dr. Willard H. Wolf. Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. 1970, p. 51.

During the early 50's, teachers were regularly contacted by letter and were provided a kit of materials which offered information on careers in various fields of agriculture. A special printed bulletin entitled, *This Is Your Life as a Teacher of Vocational Agriculture*, was published. Twelve thousand copies were distributed over a three-year period. This was followed by a series of similar publications. Altogether, about 100,000 copies of booklets were distributed to teachers and students interested in becoming teachers of vocational agriculture.

Further involvement in recruitment was shown in 1950. Ralph J. Woodin organized Townshend members to talk to high school classes and conferred with the College of Education Recruitment Committee. D. R. Purkey conferred with Assistant State Superintendent Bower on future teacher clubs and with Austin Ritchie developed a Recruitment Presentation for the FFA Convention. Ralph Bender provided information on recruitment to the Junior Dean's Office in the College of Agriculture and made contacts with students in other colleges and universities regarding transferring to The Ohio State University.

The first Recruitment Luncheon, which has become an annual activity, was reported in 1953. It was held at the Ohio Union where 55 FFA members attending the state convention were guests of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association and the Townshend Agricultural Education Society. Exhibits on recruitment were prepared for the Ohio State Fair, Farm Science Review, and use on the campus to point up the opportunities in agricultural education.

The Korean War added to the difficulty of obtaining teachers. In 1955, it was reported that 26 out-of-state teachers were employed.

In 1958, a member of the teacher education staff was asked to serve on a newly-constituted College of Agriculture committee on recruitment. The departmental effort from that point on was more closely coordinated with that of the college. The main approach was encouraging teachers to help their students to learn about opportunities in the College of Agriculture with the idea that many of these students would become interested in agricultural education once they got into the College of Agriculture.

One of the first and continuing efforts of this college Recruitment Committee was the initiation of two career days each year, held in December and in March. Ordinarily, around 50 teachers brought students to these Saturday Career Days which included a period when those students interested in agricultural education could meet with members of the staff.

In 1959, a staff study revealed that approximately three-fourths of the majors in agricultural education were former students of vocational agriculture; however, less than one-third of the local departments had graduates as majors in agricultural education. Recruitment efforts were, therefore, directed toward getting more teachers to acquaint their students with the opportunities in agricultural education.

By 1965, a serious shortage of teachers of vocational agriculture had developed across the nation. The National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association and the Agricultural Education Division of the American Vocational Association joined forces in requesting that a concerted effort be made to meet the problem. In July of that year, AVA President Floyd Johnson appointed a committee headed by Ralph J. Woodin to develop a program. This committee pursued an active program which included an annual study of Supply and Demand of Teachers. Each teacher in the nation was personally contacted by letter and provided with bulletin board posters and brochures which could be used in his personal recruitment effort. The NVATA assisted in publicizing the recruitment effort and an award for Teacher of Teachers was developed. Over 100,000 brochures had been distributed by 1969, and more than 600 copies of a set of slides on *Your Future as a Teacher of Vocational Agriculture* had been purchased by teachers of vocational agriculture across the country.

A significant development was the establishment of Teacher Recruitment Committees or Commissions in each state. Ohio took the lead in this and established one of the first Recruitment Commissions with Dwain Sayre of Sycamore as chairman. The Commission included six teacher representatives, one representative from supervision, one from teacher education and one from the Dean's Office in the College of Agriculture.

The OVATA accepted a constitutional amendment for creating the recruitment commission for agricultural education. The major purposes of the commission were:

a. To develop plans and procedures for acquainting teachers of vocational agriculture with the needs for interested, capable high school students for preparing for the profession

b. To cooperate with all other agencies including the College of Agriculture in recruitment of capable high school students for careers in agriculture including agricultural education

c. To develop and disseminate information on the supply and demand for teachers of vocational agriculture

d. To recognize the efforts of teachers who are successful in recruitment activities

e. To distribute information and materials which will assist teachers in recruitment activities

One of the latest developments in recruitment came during 1968 when the newly established area vocational schools had a need for special personnel for teachers of specialized agricultural offerings, such as agricultural mechanics and vocational horticulture. Recruitment here resulted in securing teachers who had a degree in agriculture and experience in the agricultural occupations other than or in addition to farming.

The budget of the recruitment commission is supported by the OVATA according to the action of the executive committee. The financial support has increased from $50 in 1970 to the present $250 in 1974.

The teachers serve for three-year terms on the commission and the chairman is appointed by the president of OVATA.

Some recent innovations in recruitment activities, according to Leon Boucher, include the following:

1. Emphasis on recruiting for teaching during FFA camp sessions – 1972
2. Appointment of a teacher recruitment chairman for each vocational agriculture district – 1973
3. Personal letters sent to prospective college students emphasizing agricultural education – 1974
4. Appointment of two undergraduate agricultural education majors to the recruitment commission
5. Continued support of the Teacher of Teachers award to approximately 15 teachers per year

Recipients of Gold Emblem Teacher of Teachers Awards have included the following:

Name	School	Year	Number of Graduates Who Taught Vocational Agriculture
Don Baier	Riverside	1968	5
A. J. Bishop	Retired, Upper Sandusky	1968	8
Glen Boling	Wayne Co. AVC	1973	6
J. Bob Evans	Southwestern	1973	5
Glen Griffith	Westerville	1972	6
F. M. Hall	Northmor	1974	5
A. Horace Hummell	Garaway	1974	6
Franklin Miller	Eastland	1967	8
Jack Nowels	Loudonville	1973	5
Joe Parrish	Caldwell	1971	5

IV. STATE POLICIES FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION IN AGRICULTURE

Clearly stated, well defined, workable policies have been important to the success of state and local vocational agriculture programs. Fortunately the need for such policies was recognized by both teachers and staff members early in the game. The first standards and policies for the program came from the Agricultural Education Section of the Vocational Division of the U. S. Office of Education in 1919 and, like directives from Washington even to this day, were difficult to understand, apply and accept.

The Smith-Hughes Act of 1918 which authorized 10 million dollars for all vocational programs including agriculture contained many wise provisions for the new programs. Both high school and adult classes were to be offered. Special administration and supervision were to be provided. Programs were to be financed through matching funds whereby each federal dollar was to be matched by a state dollar and those two dollars were to be matched by two local dollars. Provision was made for special preparation of teachers who were required to have realistic occupational experience.

Early teachers saw the wisdom of these provisions but they also saw needs for flexibility and new policies to meet new conditions as they arose in their schools. Staff members at this time felt the need of teachers' advice as they developed the new Smith-Hughes program. The fledgling organization, OVATA, became an important mechanism for developing policies for state and local programs and this function has continued to be important.

Among policies which have been discussed, initiated, revised or discarded are those relating to reimbursement of programs, teacher travel, standards for enrollment, teacher education, teacher certification and youth organizations. In fact, nearly every aspect of the program has at one time or another been considered.

The teachers association has developed a good understanding over the years of its place in policy development. Teachers recognize the increasing number of program standards which is a part of vocational legislation. Likewise, they understand the fact that vocational agriculture is a part of a state and national program into which they must integrate their professional efforts. They recognize, too, that all educational programs in the state are responsible to the State Board of Education. It is within this framework that OVATA has found its role in helping to develop and shape policies for the benefit of its members, their students and their profession.

Twenty-year awardees in 1968. *Left to right:* Jack Bartrum, Bainbridge; H. D. Brum, Columbus; Francis Miller, Fireland; Robert Phillips, Madison South; Lloyd Sharp, Jefferson; John Starling, Columbus; Richard H. Wilson, Columbus; and H. H. Warner, Elmwood.

POLICY RESOLUTIONS

Policy questions would often arise in district meetings and be referred to the OVATA Executive Committee through the district chairman and district supervisor. Here these questions would be considered by the entire committee and, in some cases, discussed in several meetings before being resolved. Final recommendations would then be brought before the entire membership at the next annual conference for final approval or rejection.

Typical examples of policy matters discussed in a particular meeting are included in these excerpts from the minutes of an April 1968[1] meeting of the OVATA Executive Committee:

> After much discussion on whether or not vocational agriculture teachers should expect pay for being an FFA advisor, it was moved by

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[1] *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. April 1968, pp. 12-13.

Bob Knedler and seconded by Bob Phillips that the FFA is an integral part of the vocational agriculture program; therefore, teachers should not expect nor ask for extra pay for being the advisor. The motion passed.

John Watkins discussed the Agribusiness Program and the Judging Contests. He announced that the committee on having a tractor rodeo at the State Fair recommended that this contest remain as a 4-H event, and that the FFA not participate. It was then moved by Ralph Needs and seconded by Ponney Cisco that the FFA have a State Tractor Trouble Shooting Contest – each district to have one entry. This motion passed.

After a very fine presentation by Jack Devitt on the Teacher of the Year Award, Jim Eck moved that five sectional plaques be awarded. This was seconded by Ponney Cisco and passed.

Mr. Dougan discussed the Foundation Units and extended service for this year. There are no more units available because of the tremendous increase in vocational education during the past year. Every vocational agriculture teacher should make sure he uses his time wisely during the summer months and that the local school administration and Board of Education be kept informed of the activities of the local department of vocational agriculture.[2]

The resolutions of OVATA provide interesting reflections of the concerns of teachers and staff at various times in regard to specific professional problems. The resolutions of the 1960 Annual Conference of OVATA provide a good example. Certain sections are included here because of their relation to the development of policy for agricultural education.

The 1960 resolutions begin with the usual courtesy items expressing appreciation to conference speakers, OVATA officers and sponsors of FFA activities.

Item 9 states "That OVATA continue to aid in sponsoring projects which promote international understanding and good will." OVATA was thus expressing its support for an important contribution to agricultural education all over the world and especially in the developing countries. Among the projects referred to were FFA activities in cooperation with CROP which resulted in sending certified chicks to Lebanon in 1960, purebred heifers to Turkey in 1958, and purebred gilts to Haiti in 1961.

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[2] *Resolutions of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association Conference.* Unpublished committee report, The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. June 1960.

A number of members accepted foreign teaching assignments during the sixties including Lowell Hedges, Daryl Sharp and John Morgan who taught vocational agriculture in India. Staff members who gave leadership to teacher education in India included Leon Boucher and Wayne Schroeder. Ralph E. Bender had two tours of duty in Brazil in 1968 and 1974 where he helped institute new programs of agricultural education.

RESOLUTIONS ON PROFESSIONAL IMPROVEMENT

Through its resolutions, OVATA expressed a continuing concern for the professional improvement of individual teachers. The 1960 resolutions state: "That we express appreciation to Tom Christin and the Standard Oil Company for making available fifteen $200 scholarships for teachers of vocational agriculture." Similar expressions of thanks are offered in 1968 to Ralph A. Harner, a former teacher from Xenia, who helped to provide similar scholarships from a family estate. The resolutions also note that the organization regularly contributed funds for recruitment activities and for the Ohio Agricultural Education Scholarship Fund for undergraduates.

Typical of other resolutions, those of 1961[3] indicate that the OVATA was concerned with the conduct of their members and the organization of the conference. The following are examples:

- "Get off to a good start in the mornings at Convention and have speaker immediately after general assembly. Stay on schedule. Post names of those who have not paid their dues."
- "That the teachers accept the professional attitude during conference toward speakers in regard to teachers leaving and talking during a presentation."

Even more specific were resolutions of the 1966 conference which stated:

- "That we accept the policy of refraining from smoking while the convention is in session"
- "The Executive Committee seriously consider changes in the noon meals"
- "Allow the Executive Committee more time for district meetings"

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[3] *Resolutions of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association Conference*, Unpublished committee report, The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. 1961.

A LAW AND ORDER RESOLUTION

One of the most far-reaching resolutions of OVATA was directed toward the Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University in 1970 in the wake of student riots on the campus. Because of the lengthy discussion of the matters by the conference and its timely and important thought, this resolution is presented in its entirety.

> **Whereas:** We the vocational agriculture teachers of Ohio have always supported and, for a great many years, have made financial contributions, individually and collectively, to The Ohio State University and its sponsored activities; and
>
> **Whereas:** Due to our great interest in and respect for this institution, we are becoming gravely concerned as to the future of the University under the present University policies in view of inadequate management of the recent disturbances on the campus and events that have taken place since that time; and
>
> **Whereas:** Many of the people in our communities are developing an unwholesome attitude toward this university.
>
> Be it, therefore, resolved that on Thursday, July 9, 1970, we, the undersigned, support immediate definite action by the Board of Trustees through the University's Central Administration to: (1) restore efficient and effective order to our University so that a desirable climate for teaching and learning exists, and (2) hold accountable, through appropriate legal processes, those who are actively involved in violent disruption of University activities and destruction of University and community property.

IN-SERVICE EDUCATION

Keeping up-to-date with changes in agriculture has been a continuing concern of vocational agriculture teachers since the birth of their professional organization. The organization has been an important means of keeping teacher educators and supervisors aware of the needs perceived by teachers as well as for the staff to present new opportunities for in-service education.

Graduate education, as a part of the in-service education of teachers, has been discussed elsewhere. The extent of graduate in-service education is indicated in this report[4] which appeared in 1968 entitled, *One-Fourth of Teachers Hold Master's Degrees.*

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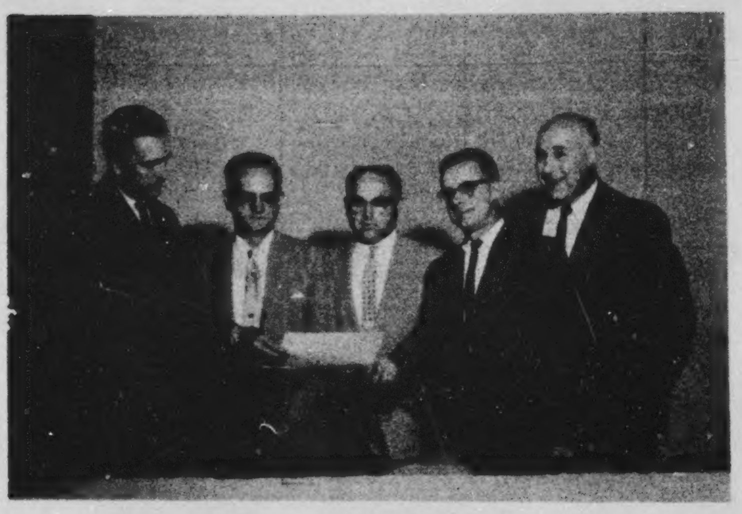
[4] *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. October 1968, pp. 7-8.



John Austin of Sears Foundation congratulates four 25-year men at the 1960 Recognition Banquet. *Left to right:* John Austin; Hillis Hall, Jackson Township, Pickaway County; Ralph Brooks, Columbus Grove; C. R. Fridline, Mt. Vernon; and Glen Boling, Wooster.

A recent study of graduate work completed by Ohio teachers of vocational agriculture shows that about 25% of teachers hold a Master's degree or a Master's degree plus additional work. Forty-three percent hold a Bachelor's degree plus an additional forty-five hours of course work. Eighteen percent hold a Bachelor's degree plus three or more quarter hours, while only 14% hold the Bachelor's degree with no additional work. Less than 2% of teachers are temporarily certified and do not hold degrees.

Additional training was reflected in salaries. Teachers with 11 to 15 years of service with a Bachelor's degree had salaries averaging $9,966. Teachers with five years of training and 11 to 15 years of service had salaries averaging $10,140. Teachers with 11 to 15 years of service and a Master's degree averaged $11,069.

Most advanced degrees of Ohio teachers were earned at The Ohio State University where 67% received these degrees. An additional 18% received degrees from other state universities. Only 3% earned degrees from other Ohio colleges and 13% had received their degrees from universities outside Ohio.

> This survey revealed that 55% of teachers had taught less than ten years. Findings also revealed that 18% of the teachers had taught more than 20 years. Such findings show that our profession is a relatively young one.
>
> Other pertinent information collected through the survey showed that 94% of the teachers were fully certified while 6% held temporary certificates.
>
> During recent months, a number of questions has been raised regarding the extended service status of vocational agriculture teachers in Ohio. Survey findings revealed that 89% of all teachers were employed for 12 weeks of extended service, and 92% of all teachers were reimbursed for extended service at a monthly rate equal to that received for in-school teaching services.

IN-SERVICE WORKSHOPS

In addition to the teachers conferences and graduate programs, non-credit in-service education programs evolved over the years to a series of specific well-organized offerings given in several locations in the state. H. D. Brum organized some of the first programs of this type in 1960. Welch Barnett succeeded him as director of such programs in 1968. A report by Barnett in 1968[5] indicates the extent of such programs at that time.

> Six in-service non-credit workshops were held at various locations in Ohio during July and August of 1969. All of these workshops were conducted in locations where a sufficient number of teachers nearby had requested them. Teachers rated all of them excellent. The name of the workshops, the location where they were held, and the number of teachers of vocational agriculture who attended are given below.
>
> Grading Beef Feeder Cattle and Lambs, Pond Management, and Sheep Management Practices – one-day Eastern Ohio Agricultural Resource and Development Center, Caldwell, Ohio, July 22, 1969, 41 teachers attended. Farm Electricity Workshop – Bowling Green High School, July 28-30, 1969, 42 teachers attended. Concrete Workshop – Riverdale High School, Mount Blanchard, Ohio, July 22-24, 1969, 23 teachers attended. Soil Fertility and Water Management Workshop,

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[5] *Ohio Agricultural Education News*, Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University, October 1968, pp. 7-8.

Wooster, Ohio, August 11-14, 1969, 23 teachers attended. Soil Fertility and Water Management Workshop – Nelsonville Technical Institute, Nelsonville, Ohio, August 11-14, 1969, 31 teachers attended. Animal Nutrition Workshop – Springfield, Ohio, August 11-14, 1969, 23 teachers attended.

Other policies which OVATA has supported have included reimbursement of local programs, reimbursement for travel expenses, enrollment minimums, support for adult and young farmer programs and the development of written policy handbooks.

REIMBURSEMENT POLICIES

State reimbursement of local programs was maintained at 50% of total cost during the 30's even though funds were limited and many more schools were seeking departments. By 1941, there were 418 departments and 359 teachers. The major problems in getting new departments approved by local schools at that time was that of meeting state requirements for adequate shops and classrooms and hiring qualified teachers. Many financially hard-pressed schools saw the "Smith-Hughes" funds as a means of increasing meager curricula and faculties, but were unwilling or unable to provide suitable facilities and equipment.

World War II caused a rapid decrease in teacher numbers from 359 in 1942 to 205 in 1944, thus temporarily providing more funds for reimbursement. By 1951, however, the increasing number and cost of programs had made it necessary to cut reimbursement to 37% of local costs. This financial squeeze persisted until the advent of the Ohio School Foundation in 1956 which provided vocational units from state funds rather than a percentage reimbursement to schools.

In 1930, a $200 addition was given to most teachers in addition to a salary which averaged about $2200 per year. Teachers, at that time, were divided in their opinions as to whether they should be paid mileage rather than the flat allowance. Finally, agreement was reached in the Executive Committee in 1940 and mileage was thereafter paid to teachers.

Enrollment minimums became increasingly important in the late 60's with strong local pressures for accountability and efficiency in all vocational classes. Teachers in smaller schools were most often affected. After two years of consideration, the Executive Committee finally accepted in 1972 the minimum of at least 12 students in each class.

POLICIES IN ADULT EDUCATION

Policies for the out-of-school classes in agriculture in the program required much attention on the part of OVATA. A number of different approaches to adult education were tried over the years. In 1921, 44 adult and young farmer classes were held – 30 were conducted by special instructors on tractor overhaul, 13 were conducted by local teachers, and one was the first young farmer class in Ohio and perhaps the nation which was taught by W. F. Bruce of Hamilton Township in Franklin County. By 1924, 100 courses were held mostly by local teachers. Young Mens Farming Clubs became popular and 65 were in operation by 1928. These were the forerunners of today's Young Farmer Associations.

Adult education continued to grow and, by 1934, 95% of teachers had courses. Teachers were reimbursed at the rate of $3.00 per session in addition to their regular salaries. World War II gave rise to additional adult education in the form of Food Production, War Training Courses and Farm Veterans Training Classes. In 1949, 555 special classes in 83 counties enrolled over 11,000 farm veterans. During the 50's and 60's, most teachers held adult and young farmer classes in addition to their high school programs.

The contribution of OVATA to this effort is documented in the resolutions of this period and in the several research studies of adult class organization made during this period by such teachers as James H. Adams of Plain City; Roy Becker of Forest; Loy Clark of Fredericktown; David Colville of Jeromesville; Denver Kaiser of Barnesville, Thomas McNutt of Dublin; Dick C. Rice of Ravenna; F. J. Ruble of Grove City; D. C. Sharp of Minster; W. H. Teegarden of Wauseon; Richard H. Wilson of Eaton; and Willard H. Wolf of Westerville.

An important publication which dealt with policies for Ohio programs of vocational agriculture was a *Manual of Policies and Procedures for Vocational Agriculture in Ohio*[6] in 1952. This was the first complete publication of its type and represented the combined efforts of OVATA and the supervisory staff. It was widely used by teachers and school administrators and did much to promote understanding of the program. As changes in policy have occurred since 1951, they have been incorporated into updated versions of this manual. The latest complete revision was published in 1972.

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[6] *Manual of Policies and Procedures for Vocational Agriculture in Ohio.* Columbus, OH: Ohio State Department of Education and Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. 1952.

Townshend Agricultural Education Society presented a picture to the department at the retirement of Professor W. F. Stewart in 1955. *Left to right:* W. F. Stewart; John Foltz, President TAES; B. L. Stradley, Vice President, The Ohio State University; and Ralph E. Bender, Department Chairman.

TEACHER EDUCATION POLICIES

Throughout the years, teachers of vocational agriculture through OVATA have contributed to the changes and developments in teacher education. Perhaps the best examples of joint activity are the work that has been done by joint committees of OVATA representatives and teacher educators, such as the Teacher Recruitment Commission and the Teaching Aids Committee. The Teaching Aids Committee, as an example, has met regularly three times per year for more than 25 years.

In 1955, the Department of Agricultural Education engaged in a very comprehensive evaluation of its curriculum. A portion of this evaluation included a follow-up of 303 former graduates who made an appraisal of courses that they took at the undergraduate level. The courses evaluated included professional and technical courses and other University requirements. A total of 250 participated in this survey which was conducted by Daniel Tanner as his Ph.D. dissertation under the general heading, *An Evaluation of the Undergraduate Program at The Ohio State University by Agricultural Education Graduates.* This study as well as others that were made about that time was summarized in the form of a publication, *A Uni-*

versity Department Evaluates Its Curriculum[7] published by the Department in 1958. It resulted in a number of changes in the curriculum as well as the improvement of courses.

Teacher certification has been of considerable interest to teachers, teacher educators, and supervisors. The practice has been followed of proposing changes in standards to the OVATA Executive Committee before making the changes.

POLICIES ON GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND OFF-CAMPUS COURSES

Teachers of vocational agriculture through OVATA have been influential in the development of graduate courses in the department especially at the Master's level. Teachers have been individually solicited throughout the years to learn of their interests and needs.

The extent of graduate enrollment is indicated by the fact that from 1935 through 1974 about 25% of all Ohio teachers held the Master's degree. During these years the enrollment of teachers has remained at about the same percentage of the total group. The department attempted to meet the needs through off-campus as well as special summer session courses. For example, it was necessary to reduce the summer program from 5½ weeks which was the regular term to 4 weeks and then, in more recent years, to 3 weeks in order to permit the teacher of vocational agriculture to better carry out the extended service function in their local communities. Courses in technical agriculture as well as special workshops and seminars in agricultural education have been offered in the summer programs.

The first off-campus graduate course, *Youth Programs in Agricultural Education (FFA)*, was offered in the Spring Quarter 1949 at Napoleon. This course was taught by Ralph E. Bender and had an enrollment of 24. Since that time, courses have been offered regularly in various sections of Ohio during the autumn and spring quarters. The place of the offering has depended primarily on the demand as indicated by the teachers through their district officers and others who were pursuing Master's degree programs.

The success of the graduate programs and in-service education of Ohio's vocational agriculture teachers can be attributed in part to their participation in determining policies for such programs. Typically faculty members of the Department of Agricultural Education would present a proposal for a new course or program to the Executive Committee. After considerable discussion, an amended and improved proposal would be developed. Often such proposals would be presented by the District and the respective chairmen in order to get the reaction of all teachers.

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[7] *A University Department Evaluates Its Curriculum.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. 1958.

The following are examples of changes in graduate programs in which OVATA played an important part:

1935 – New courses were added to the curriculum on supervised practice and adult education. These courses were offered primarily during the summer months and approximately 40 teachers were enrolled each year.

1940 – Visiting professors were added during the summer quarter

1948 – More new courses were added including Teaching Ai

Two farm veteran teachers used a plane to aid them in their teaching in 1950. *Left to right:* J. H. Lintner, supervisor of farm veterans training; D. E. Rhood, teacher educator of The Ohio State University; R. A. Howard, state supervisor; W. G. Weiler, district supervisor; and veterans' teachers W. G. Fox and L. A. Harper.

1952 – Off-campus courses on *Youth Organizations, Adult and Young Farmer Instruction, Farming Programs* and *Evaluation* were being offered during spring and fall quarters on a regular basis and rotated to various sections of the state.

1955 – Admission requirements to OSU Graduate School were raised making it difficult for many teachers to enroll.

1958 – Teachers could no longer take a 5½-week summer period for graduate work so 3-week courses were organized.

1963 – An organized offering of non-credit in-service courses was offered.

1965 – New courses and workshops were added to propose for new specialized high school programs, such as agricultural mechanics, business and horticulture.

1966 – Teachers were reimbursed for their expenses in in-service education.

1972 – An expanded number of off-campus classes was offered.

VOCATIONAL
AGRICULTURE
SHOP EXHIBITS

State Fair shop exhibits featured metal work in 1972. *Left to right:* James Haskins, Elmwood; Richard Hummel, FFA superintendent; and two interested spectators.

V. PLANNING LOCAL AND STATE PROGRAMS OF AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

One of the unique characteristics of vocational teachers from the first has been their acceptance of the responsibility of planning programs in their schools which could be of maximum benefit to their students rather than merely following a set curriculum and a textbook. This was particularly true of teachers of vocational agriculture who recognized great differences in the agriculture of their communities, community backgrounds, types of schools, and the aspirations of their students. The supervisory and teacher education staffs likewise recognized this need for individualized programs but they were also aware of the need for a coordinated and unified state program. The OVATA has performed a most important role over the years in encouraging and implementing these two thrusts through a wide variety of professional activities at local, district and state levels.

Many well-planned local programs had emerged by 1925 when OVATA was organized. Some of the better programs in the state, such as those at Ashland, Wooster, Wauseon, Ashley, Fredericktown, Kenton, Hilliard, Delta, Hillsboro, Georgetown, and Chardon, to name a few, went far beyond teaching agriculture in the classroom.

These early programs served several groups of people in the community. A major aspect of these programs was practical classroom, laboratory and shop work where high school students learned about better farming and then put these ideas into practice with their home projects. Visits of these early teachers to their students' home farms to supervise their agricultural projects did much to establish these early programs. All teachers offered classes for high school students but by 1925 more than half were also offering winter short courses for farmers. Young Mens Farming Clubs were being organized. The general public was served through teacher participation in Farmer Institutes and school fairs sponsored by the high school agricultural society. Teachers wrote articles for the weekly papers on such "new" farm practices as raising chicks in the "colony brooder house" and plowing with 5 horses in a tandem hitch.

It was not until 1930 that State Supervisor Ray Fife coined the term "a complete program" of vocational agriculture to describe such a community-wide strategy as was carried out by some of Ohio's pioneer teachers. This term later became popular in other states and "the complete program" was advocated by vocational agriculture specialists of the U. S. Office of Education during the thirties and forties. During the past half century, this idea of carefully planned state and local programs which include goals, activities, and ways and means of carrying them out have been supported by each of 50 OVATA presidents and by four different state supervisors. In one of James Dougan's first presentations to teachers when he became state supervisor in 1967 was a statement that every teacher must become the director of his own local program of agricultural education.

PROGRAM PLANNING IN 1927

The first state-wide effort at program planning was initiated in 1927. Each district set up goals in terms of such measurable items as number of students enrolled, number of project visits per student per year and number of adult and part-time classes. At the same time, each teacher was asked to prepare a written annual program and a long-term program for his department. These local goals were discussed at two state conferences and from these a set of state goals for the program was identified. A *Report of Programs* was then prepared and distributed to teachers, showing annual progress in such areas of the program as high school enrollment, adult education, public relations activities and farming programs.

For nearly thirty-five years, this annual report provided a summary of accomplishments in the state. The OVATA endorsed and supported this early effort which did much to improve the quality and uniformity of local programs.

The 1966 Report of Programs[1] began with this statement:

> A State Program of Work was adopted by the teachers of the state in 1928. Changes and additions have been made since that time. It sets up rather broad and inclusive goals including those areas common to the program. Its purpose is to serve as a pattern for setting up a program by each vocational agriculture teacher and to measure progress toward achieving the goals and/or standards.

A report from *Ohio Agricultural Education News* in 1954 based on the Report of Programs indicates the status of the program at that time.

> We are serving more people. The number of departments has increased from 184 to 340 during that five-year period. The number of people being served has increased from 10,732 to 18,037. Particularly significant has been the increase in adult farmer classes. In the past three years, the percentage of teachers conducting programs for out-of-school groups has increased from 53 percent to 72 percent. The number

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[1] *Report of Programs 1965 - 66.* Columbus, OH: Agricultural Education Service, State Department of Education. 1966.

The Ohio supervisory staff in vocational agriculture in 1957. *Left to right:* E. O. Bolender, L. B. Fidler, P. F. Pulse, L. G. Morse, L. F. Crabbe, W. G. Weiler, J. E. Dougan, F. J. Ruble, D. R. Purkey and H. D. Brum.

of teachers who are offering both young and adult farmer instruction has also doubled in this three-year period.

Other bright spots on the Progress Report include the fact that fifty-three percent of departments had exhibits at the State Fair, an increase of 12 percent since 1951, that 64 percent of teachers have been enrolled in courses beyond the Bachelor's degree within the past five years, that 80 percent of the FFA chapters had FFA banquets, that 90 percent of teachers reported being active in county vocational agriculture extension programs, and finally the fact that 90 percent of teachers reported that they submitted to their local superintendent as written plan covering the 1954 summer period.

Some items on the Progress Report should also give some teachers cause for some serious thought and some reappraisal of their programs. Among them was the fact that only twenty-three percent of teachers reported conducting Young Farmer Programs, and the fact that an average of only 6.32 farm visits were made to high school students during the year. Last and perhaps a contributing cause of some of the low spots in the program, the fact that last year only 24 percent of Ohio teachers reported the use of over-all advisory councils to provide for guidance in program planning.

LOCAL EVALUATION

Evaluation of local programs was usually made by district supervisors as they visited schools in their area and was a natural outcome of program planning. Little emphasis on self-evaluation was made and, until 1938, evaluation received little attention. In 1938, Ray Fife who had become a well-known national figure engaged in a debate on evaluation procedures with H. M. Hamlin of the University of Illinois in the columns of *The Agricultural Education Magazine.* Evaluation of local programs of vocational agriculture received national attention and evaluative criteria for vocational agriculture were developed and included in the publication, *Evaluation Criteria for Secondary Schools.*

The U. S. Office of Education Bulletin No. 240, *An Evaluation of Local Programs of Vocational Education in Agriculture,*[2] issued in 1949 contains this statement: "At the annual meeting of the American Vocational Association in St. Louis in December 1938, Ray Fife of Ohio presented a paper on national standards for vocational agriculture and L. R. Humphreys of Utah presented one on evaluating the efficiency of a department of vocational agriculture. Although standards for vocational agriculture had been discussed from time to time, this discussion at St. Louis may be considered the beginning of a movement to arrive at standards for teaching vocational agriculture.

The first evaluative criteria included 35 item groups and comprised nearly 50 pages. This elaborate instrument was used on a trial basis by Fife in 1939 at Hilliard, Canal Winchester and Delaware. World War II prevented further trial and in 1947 the instrument was revised by D. R. Purkey and Ralph J. Woodin to meet Ohio conditions. It was reduced to 12 pages and adapted for use by a teacher with the help of his advisory council. Entitled *Appraising the Vocational Agriculture Program,* this instrument was used by most Ohio teachers during the period from 1950 to 1965.

The OVATA gave much support to evaluation of state and local programs during this period for the officers were concerned with those few programs which were of poor quality and which reflected upon all those in the profession.

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[2] *An Evaluation of Local Programs of Vocational Education in Agriculture.* Vocational Division Bulletin 240, Agricultural Series No. 58. Washington, DC: Federal Security Agency, U. S. Office of Education. 1949, p. 1.

Appraising the Vocational Agriculture Program[3] provided a means of evaluating 10 areas of effort which teachers and staff agreed were important to a well-balanced program. These 10 areas were school relationships, program planning, teaching procedures, occupational experience, advising the FFA, agricultural mechanics, the Young Farm Program, the Adult Farm Program, physical facilities and public information. These ten areas of competency were used as a basis for revision of several state and local report forms, as a guide to public relations, and as a guide to local district and state activities.

A PROGRAM PLANNING WORKSHOP

OVATA became directly involved in a state-wide effort to improve program planning in 1956. Thirty selected teachers with at least two from each district were invited to attend a three-week workshop on Program Planning at The Ohio State University June 19 - July 6, 1956. The workshop was organized and taught by A. W. Tenney later, Chief of the Agricultural Education Service of the USOE and Ralph J. Woodin. Among OVATA officers and staff members enrolled in the workshop were Earl Kantner – Wauseon; F. L. Miller – Groveport; R. G. Phillips – Madison South; H. W. Moorhead – Sycamore; K. E. Trump – West Liberty; Leon Boucher – Hilliard; John Borton – Upper Sandusky; L. F. Crabbe – Mowrystown; and A. H. Hummell – Freeport. A workshop report, *This Is Program Planning*,[4] was produced by the group and was based on the 10 areas of competency described earlier.

Beginning in September of 1956, a state-wide series of district meetings was held in which the workshop participants made recommendations on program planning to their fellow teachers under the guidance of district supervisors. Typical of the recommendations discussed are the following:

- The teacher should make use of his advisory committee in evaluating his program and a comprehensive evaluation should be made annually.
- Every Ohio vocational agriculture teacher should prepare a written long-time program during the coming year.

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[3] Woodin, Ralph J. *Appraising the Vocational Agriculture Program.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University and Vocational Agriculture Service, The Ohio Department of Education. May 1970, 11 pp.

[4] Woodin, Ralph J. et al, ed. *This Is Program Planning.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. October 1956, 54 pp.

- Every teacher should allocate a reasonable amount of time to his professional responsibilities. We submit that 48 weeks averaging 44 hours per week are sufficient . . . to permit a teacher to carry out a complete program.
- In developing a community program of vocational agriculture, the teacher and his lay committee must be guided by as many facts as possible regarding the community. Many of these facts have already been gathered by the teacher and his lay committee. These, however, may be profitably supplemented by a profile of information which gives a clearer picture of community needs and resources for agricultural education.[5]

Growing out of this last recommendation came a series of 88 county profiles entitled *Facts on Farming* and later *Trends in Agriculture* which provided teachers with basic facts on the agriculture of their counties from the current U. S. Census of Agriculture. These publications provided answers on the size and scope of agricultural enterprises and, hence, were of much help to OVATA members as they planned local district and state programs.

Following the district meetings on program planning in 1956 - 57, each district was asked to formulate appropriate departmental goals. The district goals were then combined and developed into a comprehensive state program.

The new program was presented at the teachers conference in 1957 and accepted by the membership. Each teacher received a copy of the publication, *A Five-Year Program for Vocational Agriculture in Ohio,*[6] and it became a guide to teachers, staff, district officers and the entire OVATA organization.

As an indication of the concern of OVATA for this plan, the Executive Committee in 1962 asked the staff to prepare a second five-year plan for the period from 1962 to 1967. This was done and this type of plan served the program well for a decade from 1957 to 1967.

NEW CLIENTELE GROUPS

One measure of the vitality of a professional organization such as OVATA is its ability to adapt its program to changing conditions and, in some cases, to new and different groups who have unmet educational needs.

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[5] Woodin, Ralph J. et al, eds. *This Is Program Planning.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. October 1956, 54 pp.

[6] *A Five-Year Program for Vocational Agriculture in Ohio.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University and Agricultural Education Service, State Department of Education. August 1957, 10 pp.

The Smith-Hughes Act and subsequent vocational legislation were quite specific in identifying the purpose of vocational education and, in the case of agricultural education, its purpose was to prepare students for the vocation of farming. With the passage of the Vocational Education Act of 1963, the purposes of vocational agriculture were broadened to include not only farming occupations but also off-farm agricultural occupations as well. OVATA's contribution to this new direction is discussed on the pages which follow.

AGRICULTURE BECOMES MORE THAN FARMING

The OVATA played an important part as vocational agriculture in Ohio changed its objective from preparing students for farming to a broad selection of careers in the field of agriculture and agribusiness.

The expanded program of vocational agriculture was made possible by the Vocational Act of 1963; however, the Act could not be carried out until 1965 when Ohio's new plan for vocational education was approved.

Willard H. Wolf, who conducted several summer credit workshops to prepare teachers for offering agricultural business programs, gives an account of this important phase of OVATA history in the pages which follow.

To show the effect of the broadened program in vocational agriculture, the enrollments in programs and the number of teachers involved are presented for 1965 - 66 and for 1973 - 74 on Page 62.

From the very beginning of vocational agriculture in 1918, there were teachers of the opinion that the program not only provided an excellent education for farming but also for other agriculturally-related occupations. They resented the practice of measuring theoutcomes of vocational agriculture by counting only those directly involved in farming. Fortunately for the program, the public generally evaluated the program by its effect on the participants. The demand for such programs in Ohio communities attests to the acceptance of vocational agriculture as a sound educational venture. In fact, many parents, school administrators and agricultural leaders thought the federal and state standards for vocational agriculture to be antiquated and suggested that teachers do what was best for their students regardless of the dictates of the few adhering strictly to the letter of the law of 1918.

As opportunities for off-farm employment increased following World War II, many vocational agriculture students left the farm for city jobs. Some school administrators questioned the value of their vocational agriculture programs when only a minority could become farmers.

TABLE 2
A COMPARISON OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ENROLLMENTS
1965 - 66 and 1973 - 74

	Total Teachers	
Taxonomies	**1965 - 66 (358)**	**1973 - 74 (584)**
Production	13,800	10,897
Farm Management		5,282
Small Animal Care		51
Agricultural Business		1,347
Agricultural Mechanics		984
Production – Processing		36
Horticulture		2,261
Agricultural Resources		252
Environmental Science		107
Forestry		15
Agricultural Work Experience		174

PILOT PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED

Teachers, even though under much local pressure, did their best to maintain standards and serve their students. But, at the same time, they let their feelings and concerns be known in discussions at district conferences, state meetings, and through the OVATA Executive Committee, and individually to members of the state staff. Their efforts were fruitful and a committee of teachers and members of the state staff assured approval for pilot programs to be initiated in 1959 - 60 for the specific purpose of determining better ways to serve those students pursuing agricultural, non-farm occupations. State Supervisor Warren Weiler was a national leader in the move to imitate new vocational agriculture programs during this period.

Among those on the first committee were Harry Plank, Smithville; Fred Mengert, Arlington; Robert Fuller, Buckeye Valley; Rex Cunningham, Arcadia; Paul Hartsook, Bowling Green; Glen Griffith, Westerville; and staff members D. R.

Wayne Wolf (right) explains the secrets of starting geranium cuttings to two members of his horticulture class at Greene County Area Vocational School.

Purkey, Willard H. Wolf, and Warren G. Weiler. They set up guidelines for the pilot programs and reviewed the plans presented by the teachers interested in conducting such programs. Eleven teachers were given approval by local administrators and district supervisors to begin pilot programs in Ohio. In addition to the above teachers, Robert J. Smith, Anthony Wayne; O. C. Duke, Medina; William Wier, Lodi; John Oren, Geneva; and Jerry Vogt, Caldwell also undertook pilot programs.

The contributions of these teachers conducting pilot programs were invaluable. The use of cooperating employers, student released time from school, related class instruction, student pay for employment, use of advisory committees, on-the-job supervision and informing the public were aspects of off-farm programs that were tested. The results accomplished in the pilot schools became a basis for expanding the program of vocational agriculture.

The programs of the annual conferences from 1965 through 1972 reflect the efforts of OVATA to help teachers adjust their programs to a changing clientele.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IDENTIFIED

Another valuable input from individual OVATA members came through a series of 20 research studies dealing with the need for expanded vocational agriculture programs. Typical of some of the influential studies of this period were those of Urban Oen on cooperative work experience in northwest Ohio, James Utzinger of Grove City on opportunities in horticulture, Wilbur Weir on farm-related employment in Medina County, and David Young on farm-related employment in Toledo. Other teachers who made thesis studies employment opportunities in their areas included John Billick of Perkins Township, Herbert Chamberlain of Jackson, Jack Devitt of Ottoville, Lowell Hedges of Elgin, Gale Leimbach of Hayesville, and Frederick Lendrum of Patrick Henry.

Warren Weiler (front center) sponsored the recognition of these teachers who were designated outstanding teachers of 1973. *Left to right:* Glenn Gallaway, Archbold; Lloyd Smith, Delphos; Franklin Miller, Eastland AVS; Franklin Deeds, Cory-Rawson; Dale Scott, TriCounty AVC; and Ray Griffith, River View.

A committee of teachers, one for each of the taxonomies, were influential in arriving at teacher certification standards, curricula and program criteria according to Willard H. Wolf of the teacher education staff. Probably in no other aspect in program development have the teachers been more intimately involved nor has so much been accomplished in such a short period of time.

WORKING WITH OTHER VOCATIONAL SERVICES

The sixties represented a decade of growth and renewal of vocational education in the nation and was a period in which OVATA leadership was important in pioneering new programs, new procedures and a closer relationship among all vocational services. This was expressed in a resolution passed at the 1962 conference[7] which stated, "That Ohio teachers (of vocational agriculture) continue to give our support to other vocational programs and avail ourselves for cooperative joint action."

One of the important innovations of this period was the inclusion of programs of agricultural education for high school students in the newly organized joint vocational schools. The first such program began in the Pike County Joint Vocational School in 1966 and such programs in the new area vocational schools soon demonstrated their worth as a supplement and an addition to vocational agriculture programs offered in the local schools. The fact that most of the supervisors and many of the teachers had previous experience in local vocational agriculture programs probably helped in this transition.

FARM BUSINESS PLANNING

With the emergence of the *businessman farmer* in the sixties, a new program of *Farm Business Planning and Analysis* was inaugurated in 1961. Staff members Leon Boucher, Floyd McCormick and D. R. Purkey helped initiate the new venture. The first teacher in this program on a full-time basis was Lloyd Sharp of Ashtabula County followed by Homer Brown of Garoway. Other OVATA members who became teachers in the early years included John Fraker of Kenton, Lloyd Smith of Delphos, Bennie White of Manchester, Bert Showman of Williams County and Robert Mathews of Belmont County. John T. Starling has headed this program since 1967 and, under his guidance, it has grown from 666 participants to 1855 in

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[7] Unpublished Resolutions of the Annual Conference of Ohio Teachers of Vocational Agriculture. Columbus, OH: 1962, 2 pp.

1975. By 1975, 26 full-time and 35 part-time teachers worked in the program; all were OVATA members.

Another important innovation was the offering of a two-year technical program in agriculture in the technical institutes. The first two-year post high school program in agricultural business was offered at Clark County Technical Institute in 1962 and was taught by H. B. Drake, a long-time OVATA member. By 1975, eleven technical colleges and institutes were offering preparation for 32 different agricultural careers and were enrolling 1,293 students according to Larry H. Erpelding, a teacher-educator at OSU. OVATA's support of the technical programs in agriculture was in terms of teachers helping recruit students as well as providing many of the teachers. Director James E. Dougan was one of the pioneers in the promotion of technician education in agriculture and did much to keep teachers and staff aware of unmet needs in this area.

PRIDE EVALUATION

Another significant development in program planning was the participation of vocational agriculture teachers in the PRIDE evaluation, a system which provided an opportunity for a school to evaluate its entire vocational program. Because of their long experience in program development, OVATA members played an important part in these local evaluations. A report by Welch Barnett in a 1975 issue of *Ohio Agricultural Education News*[8] sums up the current status of this evaluation effort as follows:

> Program review for improvement development and expansion is continuing in Ohio. Over a five-year period ending July 1, 1975, 85% of the students composed of the student and schools in Ohio will have completed PRIDE. Four PRIDE teams composed of personnel from each vocational service have provided organizational leadership during the fall of 1974 to school personnel and advisory committees in 21 Vocational Education Planning Districts to review Vocational Programs. The four areas of review include the curriculum, facilities and equipment, the teacher and students. A product review is also included to determine what graduates of each program do after their high school days.

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[8] *Ohio Agricultural Education News*. Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. January 1975, p. 25.

The review by the advisory committee has been completed in some Vocational Education Planning Districts already, and the remainder will be completed in January, February and March of 1975. A state supervisor then visits each program reviewing all areas of the program with the summary of strengths and needed improvements written by the committee. Priorities are established, the cost of each improvement is stated, and a feasible date for completion. All of these items are discussed as the state supervisor sits down with the school administration and the teachers to plan for needed improvement, development and expansion of (the) program.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

This review of OVATA participation in program planning indicates an increasing need for involving teachers in planning to meet changing conditions in the educational and agricultural environment of the state. It seems likely that OVATA will need to give increasing support to planning and replanning dynamic programs of agricultural education.

Home on leave from the Armed Forces, agricultural education graduates generally checked in at the Department of Agricultural Education. In this 1952 picture, Austin E. Ritchie and Ralph E. Bender welcome Earl Gerdeman of Van Wert County back from Korea.

PROGRAM PLANNING

Each district in Ohio was represented at this 1956 workshop on local program planning directed by R. J. Woodin and A. W. Tenney of the U. S. Office of Education, Holding the sign are David Barrett, Ft. Frye; Keith Fields, Olentangy; and Harold Moorhead, Sycamore.

VI. HELPING TEACHERS TO USE IMPROVED METHODS AND MATERIALS

Ohio teachers of vocational agriculture have had a long-continuing interest in the development and dissemination of teaching materials. This interest was first manifested when W. F. Stewart assembled a group of prospective teachers during the first semester of 1917 to prepare materials for use in teaching when vocational agriculture programs were first started in January of 1918. These materials were duplicated and made available to all schools offering vocational agriculture. From that time until the present, teachers of vocational agriculture have been involved along with state staff and teacher education personnel in the development of teaching materials.

The development of curriculum materials for vocational agriculture teachers in Ohio has been influenced more and over a longer period of time by former OVATA member Harlan E. Ridenour than any other single person. Ridenour's classroom was characterized by such a variety of useful teaching materials that he was named a member of the first Teaching Aids Committee in 1951 while a teacher at Centerburg. Subsequently he completed two important research studies in curriculum materials for his Master's thesis and his doctoral dissertation. Ridenour joined the staff in 1962 and, since that time, has developed one of the best curriculum materials services in the nation at The Ohio State University. The following account of the evolution of a teaching aids committee to a curriculum materials service was prepared by Dr. Ridenour who has the advantage of being an active participant and observer over the past 25 years.

THE TEACHING AIDS COMMITTEE

The interest of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association in instructional materials is made evident by the establishment of the Teaching Aids Committee in 1951 and the continuation of this committee in an unbroken line to the present date.

The present purpose of the Teaching Aids Committee is to serve in an advisory capacity to the Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum Materials Service. Due to the many similarities in the nature of the work, the Committee also serves in an advisory capacity for in-service training conducted by the Agricultural Education Service, Department of Education and the Agricultural Education Department of The Ohio State University.

The committee reviews operating policy and makes recommendations to the Curriculum Materials Service and to other appropriate departments and organizations for changes, deletions or additions in policy.

The committee serves as a communications link between teachers of vocational agriculture and the Curriculum Materials Service and those responsible for in-service training. In addition, it serves as a liaison with other agricultural agencies.

The committee gives recommendations concerning the types and kinds of materials that should be developed and the nature of in-service training programs. The committee also evaluates instructional materials developed by the other agencies and makes recommendations concerning format, technical content, and expected usefulness in Ohio Agricultural Education Programs.

The OVATA Teaching Aids Committee is composed of six Ohio teachers of vocational agriculture. The teachers serve a two-year term with three members being replaced each year. New members to replace the retiring members are nominated by the committee during its spring meeting. In selecting new members, attention is first given to the interest and ability of the prospective member in the development and use of instructional materials. Next, consideration is given to program area and geographic representation. The names of the nominees are then given to the president of the OVATA for appropriate action.

Ex officio members include the Director of the Curriculum Materials Service, members of the supervisory and teacher education staff responsible for in-service training, the agricultural mechanics staff member, the OVATA president, the Director of the Agricultural Education Service, and the Chairman of the Department of

Ohio's first teaching committee met at West Jefferson in 1951 and, during the meeting, saw a film produced by Maurice Weiting of the Ohio Farm Bureau. *Left to right:* H. E. Ridenour, Centerburg; Howard Nowels, Fremont; Gordon Ryder, Washington C. H.; John Everitt, Bryan; D. R. Purkey, district supervisor, Columbus; R. O. Deacon, West Jefferson; and Maurice Weiting, Columbus.

Agricultural Education.

The committee meets three times a year on Saturday mornings with one meeting during each of the autumn, winter and spring quarters. Meeting agendas are prepared and minutes of the meetings are distributed to the appropriate persons.

BEGINNING EFFORTS BY THE COMMITTEE

The first Teaching Aids Committee of the OVATA was appointed by President C. R. Fridline and held its first meeting on May 10, 1951. The committee was composed of Harlan E. Ridenour, R. O. Deacon, John Everett, H. E. Nowels, Glenn Gallaway and Gordon Ryder. Ralph J. Woodin was the teacher education staff representative and D. R. Purkey was the supervisory staff representative for the committee and they provided leadership for the organization and operation of the committee. Both of these staff members provided outstanding leadership and encouragement for the committee from the first meeting in 1951 until they were promoted to higher positions in vocational education. This happened in 1965 to D. R. Purkey and in 1972 to Ralph J. Woodin.

The first act of the committee on May 10, 1951,[1] was to define teaching aids as including all of the materials and procedures which assist the teacher in presenting information to the class and in directing the learning process. The role of the teacher of vocational agriculture was also identified.

After reviewing instructional materials and making recommendations for their potential use, the committee then prepared a five-year program for the preparation and use of teaching aids for teachers of vocational agriculture in Ohio.

The five-year plan included provisions for a survey of teachers to determine teaching aids needs, to develop a working relationship with the Agricultural Extension Service, to exhibit teaching aids during the annual conference, to provide filmstrips and other materials through the Agricultural Education Service, and to keep teachers informed of new materials. The plan also recommended that teaching aids should be presented to teachers with an explanation of how they might be used. It was also recommended that, to carry out the plan, it would be necessary to add a staff person with full responsibility in this area.

The first committee made the following recommendations to the OVATA:

1. That the Teaching Aids Committee be a standing committee of the OVATA

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[1] Unpublished Minutes of the Teaching Aids Committee of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. Columbus, Ohio: Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association. May 1951.

2. That the committee be appointed each year at the annual conference
3. That half of the committee be appointed each year to a two-year term of office to provide a continuing line of thought within the committee

The solid foundation laid down by this first committee has had much to do with the continuing success of the committee in the form of service rendered to Ohio teachers of vocational agriculture. Many of the basic principles of operation of the committee which were developed during the May 10, 1951 meeting apply to the committee as it operates today.

One of the first acts of the committee was to submit a plan to the OVATA Executive Committee for the development of a list of bulletins for each area of instruction. The plan included the involvement of one teacher for each area of instruction, such as beef cattle, corn, soil conservation, etc. The plan was approved and a comprehensive list of recommended bulletins was published and kept updated for a number of years. For example, in 1951 a total of 31 teachers were responsible for identifying bulletins for use in 39 different areas of teaching.

Another activity initiated by the 1951 Teaching Aids Committee was an exhibit displaying teaching aids prepared by teachers. Final plans for such an exhibit were completed in 1952 and the exhibit was first displayed during the 1952 Annual Summer Conference. This practice was continued until the 1966 Annual Teachers Conference. Teachers who were to be invited to prepare a teaching aids exhibit during the annual conference were identified by committee members, supervisors and teacher educators.

The first teaching aids exhibit was as follows:

Charts	Gilbert Guiler, Canal Winchester
Chart rack	R. O. Deacon, West Jefferson
Filmstrip holder	Glenn Gallaway, Archbold
Farm plan photos and layout board	Herbert Brum, Frankfort
Photographs	Leslie Crabbe, Mowrystown
Chart-making materials	H. E. Ridenour, Centerburg
Clipping file	Glenn Gallaway, Archbold, and Loy Clark, Fredericktown
Liming exhibit	C. E. Wood, Bryan
Feed samples and FFA equipment care	Gordon Ryder, Washington C. H.
Plant specimens	Howard Nowels, Fremont
Results of one-day work-workshops	Kenneth Wilson, Covington
Conservation charts	Wallace Barr, Wapakoneta
Slides	Charles Might, Gibsonburg

Throughout its history, the Teaching Aids Committee has made use of surveys of teachers to determine the materials and equipment now available, their opinions concerning their usefulness, and their needs for additional materials and equipment. The first such study was conducted by Harlan E. Ridenour[2] as a part of a Master's study. Reports were made to the committee in 1951 and 1952 and a final report being made to the OVATA during the 1952 Annual Conference.

During the 1952 conference, Gordon Ryder, the Teaching Aids Committee chairman, made a report of the committee's activities.

A comprehensive list of motion pictures was prepared by R. O. Deacon, a member of the first Teaching Aids Committee, with follow-up work by Kenneth Wilson, an early committee member. This list contained an evaluation scale indicating quality of content and the usefulness of each film.

It is interesting to note that, during the April, 1953 committee meeting, it was was reported that teachers "are receiving entirely too much mimeographed material." It was recommended that it would be best "to be more selective in the future. . . ."

In 1954, Welch Barnett, Carrollton, and Florin James, Hopewell-Loudon, committee members at that time, provided leadership to a pilot project which prepared lists of *Reference Personnel for Vocational Agriculture.* This was a listing of local resource persons that would be called upon by teachers of vocational agriculture.

At this same time, the committee was responsible for the involvement of both staff members and teachers in preparing and updating *Tools for Teaching* which listed a wide variety of films, charts and other readily available materials that could be used in teaching. For example, in 1954, 74 different teachers prepared lists of teaching materials in 25 different subject matter areas.

During the early history of the Teaching Aids Committee, a Vocational Agriculture Service was operated by D. R. Purkey. Mr. Purkey, with assistance from the committee, evaluated various kinds of teaching materials. If the materials were deemed suitable for use by Ohio teachers, order blanks were prepared and provided to teachers. The materials were then purchased for resale to schools.

One particular group of items reviewed by the committee was the Illinois Vocational Agriculture Service subject matter units. Ten of these units were recommended for Ohio teachers and made available for purchase through the Vocational Agriculture Service.

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[2] *Procedures Used by Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers in Using Research Data Published by the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station.* (Unpublished Master's thesis, The Ohio State University, 1952), p. 4.

One item of discussion during several committee meetings was the fact that only a small number of schools took advantage of the Vocational Agriculture Service by purchasing the available materials. This was in spite of the fact that the materials had been presented at district meetings, announced in *Ohio Agricultural Education News*, displayed and discussed during the annual conference.

The committee also maintained liaison with other agricultural and education agencies. This was accomplished by inviting representatives of these agencies to attend committee meetings and to present items of mutual interest. Also, the committee maintained liaison with the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station and other such agencies by scheduling a part of their meetings in the facilities of these agencies.

In 1959, the committee assisted in preparing plans for 44 different non-credit in-service training workshops in ten different locations. The committee has continued to assist with the in-service training programs to the present time.

Also, in 1959, the AGDEX[3] system of filing was presented to the committee by its authors Howard Miller and Ralph J. Woodin. The committee recommended that AGDEX be adopted by vocational agriculture in Ohio as the official filing system to be used. This came to pass and now AGDEX has spread to most of the other states in the country.

AN EXPANDING PROGRAM

In December of 1962, a long-standing recommendation of the Teaching Aids Committee became a reality. Harlan E. Ridenour was engaged as a member of the supervisory staff, to work full time in the area of teaching materials. The Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum Materials Service was formed with its office in the Department of Agricultural Education at The Ohio State University. This is a joint effort between the Ohio Department of Education, Agricultural Education Service and The Ohio State University, Department of Agricultural Education in cooperation with the Ohio Vocational Agricultural Teachers Association with the Teaching Aids Committee serving in an advisory capacity. D. R. Purkey, H. D. Brum and Ralph J. Woodin continued to work with the Teaching Aids Committee and the new Curriculum Materials Service. Their contribution had much to do with getting the new venture off to a good start.

The Teaching Aids Committee provided invaluable assistance in selecting types of materials to be developed by the Curriculum Materials Service. Also, upon the recommendation of the committee, the Curriculum Materials Service prepared a catalog listing materials produced in Ohio and a second catalog listing materials from many different sources across the country that could be purchased by Ohio schools through the Curriculum Materials Service. These catalogs replaced the committee's *Bulletin List*, *Tools for Teaching* and the *Film List.*

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[3] Miller, Howard L. and Woodin, Ralph J. *AGDEX – A System for Classifying, Indexing and Filing Agricultural Publications.* Washington, DC: The American Vocational Association, Inc. Rev. 1969, 50 pp.

The 1963 Vocational Education Act of the Federal Congress expanded Agricultural Education to eight different program areas which included off-farm employment areas. This also greatly expanded the scope of the Curriculum Materials Service and the work of the Teaching Aids Committee.

In March, 1966, the committee, during its regular meeting, recommended that the OVATA establish a Classroom Teacher Award to recognize those teachers doing an outstanding job of classroom teaching. Dale Scott was appointed to present the recommendation to the April 1, 1966, OVATA Executive Committee meeting. The idea was accepted by the Executive Committee and a committee was appointed to work out the procedures to follow in selecting the winners. The first Outstanding Teacher Award was made in 1968 with this practice continuing to the present time.

A series of district workshops on teaching aids was conducted by H. D. Brum and R. J. Woodin in 1959. Comparing notes at Amanda School were *(left to right):* John Ricketts, Baltimore; Fred Body, Carroll; Ralph Foltz, Bremen; and Don Waliser, Amanda.

Agdex
agdex

The Agdex Filing System (AGDEX) which was adopted in Ohio in 1959 is explained by Howard L. Miller who developed the system. *Left to right:* Elmo Layman, Urbana; Carl Besst, Richwood; Merrill Runyon, Urbana; D. C. McInturf, Federal Hocking; Howard L. Miller; Ralph Needs, Groveport; and Fred Abel, Carroll.

The Teaching Aids Committee and the Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum Materials Service were in charge of planning the 1967 Annual Conference for final approval by the Agricultural Education Service and the Executive Committee of the OVATA. The theme of the conference was *More Effective Vocational Agriculture Through Improved Communications.* Presentations were made by leading educators with a part of the program being devoted to demonstrations of various audio-visual equipment which was on display during the conference.

During the Winter 1968 committee meeting, it was recommended that the Ohio Agricultural Education Curriculum Materials Service join the American Association for Agricultural Engineering and Vocational Agriculture. This would make a large number of agricultural mechanics materials available to Ohio teachers at a reduced cost. This recommendation was put into effect on July 1, 1968.

Since its inception in 1951, the Teaching Aids Committee has been an effective means of facilitating communications between teachers of vocational agriculture, the joint state staff, and the OVATA Executive Committee, The committee has made many sound recommendations, the majority of which have come into reality in the form of actions taken by appropriate groups. The committee members themselves have contributed many hours of work. Vocational agriculture in Ohio has been improved due to the efforts of the Teaching Aids Committee over the years.

VII. FOSTERING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING

The need for public understanding, appreciation and support for agricultural education was especially important during the first decade of vocational agriculture in Ohio. This concern of teachers was expressed as one of the basic purposes of this organization. Through the years, this theme has been reiterated, re-emphasized, and implemented through a variety of activities on the part of individual vocational agriculture teachers and their professional organization.

Teachers in new Smith-Hughes vocational agriculture programs in the 20's and 30's met with considerable misunderstanding in their communities. Some farmers didn't put much stock in "book farming," and academic teachers were sometimes jealous of the smaller classes and the "free periods" of the vocational agriculture teachers. School administrators found double-period classes hard to schedule and sometimes resented the efforts of supervisors to maintain program standards which were new to them. The fact that the vocational agriculture department sometimes located in the basement of the high school or in a bus garage was another result of misunderstanding of the role of the "Smith-Hughes Man." Recognizing that these problems could best be met by effective public relations activities, Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association encouraged an organized public relations program.

PUBLIC RELATIONS THROUGH FAIRS

By 1930, three important accomplishments in public relations had been developed with the leadership of OVATA. A new youth organization, the Ohio FFA, had been born and went to work at once with the result that the public soon learned to know the "boys in blue." A second development was that of many teachers writing accounts of their programs for local papers. Many vocational agriculture programs were located in county seat towns, most of which had a weekly paper; many of these editors found the vocational agriculture programs good sources of news and, as a result, they worked closely with the local teachers. A third development was that of widespread participation of vocational agriculture teachers in county fairs and in the Ohio State Fair.

The genial B. P. Sandles, first manager of the Ohio State Junior Fair, was a strong supporter of vocational agriculture. He helped add classes for FFA exhibitors and was a frequent speaker at annual conferences. FFA exhibitors doubled, then quadrupled from 1931 to 1934 as a result of certain pioneer teachers' efforts. Consistent winners in the State Junior Fair in steers came from the classes of H. D.

Fleming of Vaughnsville, and in farm shop from Centerburg where Lee Dill taught. FFA booths from Fredericktown where the teacher was J. H. Lintner and Kenton whose teacher was D. B. Robinson won consistently. Other teachers whose students were successful exhibitors in this period included C. F. Flickinger of Hilliard, Paul Mengert of Orrville, Ralph M. Foltz of Bremen and E. R. Smith of Prospect.

In a 1954 article in *Ohio Agricultural Education News,*[1] Warren G. Weiler reported, "Last January, the Ohio Fair Managers' Association asked the Extension Service and the agricultural education staff to appraise the County Junior Fairs and make a report. Practically all fairs have been visited. This study reveals that, in some counties, the livestock show is strong; in others, it is farm mechanics or FFA. A few had outstanding exhibits in all areas, and a few had comparatively little. We are missing an opportunity when we do not make a good showing of the results of our work during the State and County Fairs."

PUBLIC APPRECIATION DURING WORLD WAR II

The 30's and 40's saw a continuation of the above activities plus a new recognition of agricultural education in its support of the World War II effort. A list of teachers in the service dated June, 1945, showed 120 in the Armed Forces. This number increased to approximately 150 leaving only about 150 teachers in the state. Many more teachers might have served had not their draft boards believed they could make their greatest contribution through encouraging food production, establishing community canneries, helping with scrap drives and farm gasoline rationing. Thousands of farm machines were kept running as a result of repair classes supervised by vocational agriculture teachers. Some teachers had as many as 12 different classes in operation in their areas, meeting in garages, service stations and barns as well as in school shops.

Following the war, the new veterans' programs were organized and supervised by vocational agriculture teachers, thus more than doubling the number of persons served by the program. Six hundred-fifty such programs were in operation by 1946. All of these activities established vocational agriculture as a part of public education. The efforts of the profession were by 1950 much better understood and much better appreciated by the public. The OVATA continued and refined its public relations efforts during the 50's and 60's and gave more effort to a planned state program.

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[1] *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. April 1954, p. 4.

Winner of the Sweepstakes trophy at the Ohio State Fair in 1973 was Ridgedale School. Teachers Dennis Swartz and John Everett received the trophy from a representative of the Governor's office.

OHIO AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION NEWS

One important means of communication was a quarterly newsletter from the state staff entitled, *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* This publication in its first issue of November of 1949 made this statement:[2]

> **A Beginning**
>
> This first issue might be formally labeled "Volume I, Number I." The purpose of the publication is to bring to teachers and to teachers-in-training concise information on recent occurrences and developments in our field and to serve as a reminder of events ahead not to be overlooked. It is not a substitute for official letters on supervision or teacher training policy. Such communications will continue to reach teachers in the customary form and way. Published on the campus, the *News*

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[2] *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education The Ohio State University. November 1949, p. 1.

> will serve teachers, present and prospective, by channeling to them information supplied by various staff members. The frequency and regularity of publication and the size of each issue will depend upon the extent to which news items are found and reported. For the present then, the best prediction on publication must be "from time to time."

Appropriately, the first article dealt with the need for more teachers and included this statement:

> As of today, the official count is 262 teachers of vocational agriculture on the job in 306 high schools. Of these teachers, 216 serve single schools and 45 divide their time between two. One school, Ashland, has two teachers.
>
> Looking ahead to the number of men who will in the near future become eligible to enter the profession, we find that of the approximately 1935 men enrolled in the College of Agriculture, 262 are registered as majors in agricultural education.

Though this first issue did not include any report of OVATA activities, most succeeding issues did. A typical report of an executive committee meeting of OVATA appears in the October 1954[3] issue. Among the items discussed was a membership invitation to be issued veteran teachers, off-campus classes to be offered, dinner meetings with farmer cooperative personnel in each district, resource persons in adult classes and plans for Farm and Home Week. A committee was appointed to plan a new State Junior Fair Building and included R. O. Deacon, West Jefferson; Ray Diley, West Milton; John Borton, Upper Sandusky; Paul Mengert, Orrville; and Warren G. Weiler, *ex officio.*

Ohio Agricultural Education News has continued to this day and one of its important functions has been that of keeping OVATA members aware of the program of the organization. Dr. Leon W. Boucher who is the current editor is a former OVATA president.

JUDGING CONTESTS

The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Judging Contests were first held at Wooster at the Agricultural Experiment Station in 1923 and were in operation two years before the birth of OVATA. The contests are included in this history because they

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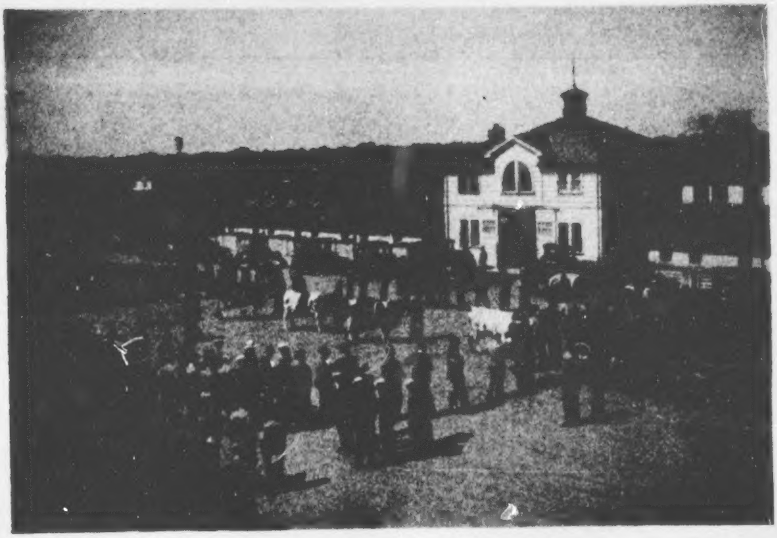
[3] *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. October 1954, p. 8.



A ring of Holsteins was a part of the Vocational Agriculture Judging Contests held at The Ohio State University in 1925. Dean C. S. Hutchison took this picture.

have involved so many OVATA members and because the association has devoted many hours to their organization and operation.

As a public relations venture, they provided opportunities for leading farmers and livestock breeders to get acquainted with their local teachers. They also provided news for the local papers on trips, contests and winners. At the state level, they helped establish relationships with most departments of the College of Agriculture and with state leaders in the agricultural industry. After being held for several years at the Ohio State Fair, the contests were moved to the College of Agriculture in 1927 and most of them have remained there.

Over the years, new contests have been added until, in 1974, there were 15 different contests. Each of these contests are conducted by teachers in cooperation with College of Agriculture faculty and vocational agriculture staff members. After the contests are over, around 100 teachers assist the staff in grading the contests.

According to John Watkins, staff member in charge of the contests in 1974, there were 1,193 teams entered in 15 contests and involving 3,356 vocational agriculture students.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE ORGANIZED

Another development in public relations activities during the 50's and 60's was a more formalized program. The OVATA accepted a committee report at the 1951 teachers conference which called for a wide variety of activities on the part of teachers and staff.[4] Committee members included L. F. Crabbe of Mowrystown, L. W. Boucher of Green Springs, Henry C. Horstman of Anna, and D. R. Purkey and Ralph J. Woodin representing the staff. Their report recommended the following:

1. A changed attitude on the part of vocational agriculture teachers is necessary. It is felt that too many teachers hesitate to publicize the work of their department because they feel that they are "tooting their own horn," and they fear criticism from other teachers. This attitude of teachers should be changed. Teachers should feel that public relations is an important part of their job.
2. A coordinated plan is necessary to develop an effective program of public relations. Such a plan could result in the Ohio Vocational Teachers Association providing the leadership for a much more effective program of public relations for vocational agriculture in Ohio.
3. Teachers need to learn some of the basic techniques necessary to the effective use of the techniques of public relations as they use the various media such as personal contacts, newspaper, radio and television.

Further recommendations included the following:

1. Undergraduate teacher training should include practice in all techniques of public relations rather than merely news writing.
2. The *Report of Programs* as well as other instruments of evaluation should include items on public relations.
3. A continuing emphasis on the value of public relations should be given at annual and district conferences.
4. A public relations committee of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association should direct the effort of teachers of vocational agriculture toward a more extensive program of public relations.

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[4] *Use of Mass Media in Public Relations by the Teachers of Vocational Agriculture.* (Unpublished Master's Thesis, The Ohio State University, 1963), p. 17.

5. The public relations committee should plan each year an annual program of public relations for vocational agriculture in Ohio.
6. The committee should assist directly in public relations activities at a state level in connection with the FFA Judging Contest and Convention, the Annual Teachers Conference, the State Fair, and the Young Farmers Conference.
7. The committee should work closely with the Executive Committee of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.
8. The committee should direct its program of public relations to specific groups.
9. One teacher in each county should be named as a public relations chairman where there are several departments within a county.
10. Articles should be regularly provided to *The Ohio Farmer* and similar publications.
11. The establishment of a speaker's list of vocational agriculture teachers should be made and submitted to such service clubs as Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary, etc.
12. Fill-in type news articles should be prepared and sent to teachers on a monthly basis.
13. A budget of $100 should be provided the committee for each year's work.

L. F. Crabbe who joined the staff as a supervisor in 1957 gave much leadership to the development of public relations activities for OVATA.

An important public relations effort on the part of OVATA has been that of developing working relationships with other organized groups with whom teachers work. The district vocational agriculture teacher-superintendent dinner is an example of such activity. Similar joint district meetings have been held with former cooperative personnel and other agricultural groups. In many counties, informal get-togethers of workers in agricultural extension with vocational agriculture teachers have become family affairs which have done much to coordinate related aspects of the two programs.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

Public relations activities directed toward vocational legislation have been a long time interest of the OVATA. Generally under the over-all direction of the Ohio Voca-

A popular feature of teachers conferences during the sixties was the presentation of trophies by E. O. Bolender to teachers of winning teams at the vocational agricultural judging contests. *Left to right:* E. O. Bolender, District Supervisor; and teachers: P. D. Wickline, Xenia; Richard Duyor, Grove City; C. V. Donnell, Deshler; G. H. Griffith, Westerville; and Karl Kahler, Executive Director of the Ohio Council of Retail Merchants.

tional Association, these efforts utilized the contacts and talents of many active vocational agriculture teachers. A 1952 report in *Ohio Agricultural Education News*[5] carried this account:

> On November 10, the Ohio Vocational Association launched a project designed to acquaint Ohio Congressmen with vocational education within their own districts. Typical of results secured to date is this report from William O. Kelley, Chairman of a committee in District 11:
>
>> The committee from the 11th District of Ohio had an all-day program, December 4th, wtih Congressman, Dr. Brehm and Mrs. Brehm. We visited the Agriculture and Home Economics departments at Pleasantville, Amanda and Bremen High Schools; also the Trades and Industries Department at Lancaster High School.
>
> Serving as chairmen of these committees are the following teach-

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[5] *Ohio Agricultural Education News.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. January 1952, p. 14.

ers of vocational agriculture: H. B. Drake, Germantown; D. C. Sharp, Minster; R. S. Rickley, Liberty Center; L. F. Crabbe, Mowrystown; G. J. Ryder, Washington C. H.; D. L. Cornett, Pleasant and Waldo; R. B. Rader, Clay Township; R. W. Shaver, Cheshire; E. M. Caldwell, Buckskin; L. W. Boucher, Hilliard; J. E. Everett, Monroeville; O. C. Duke, Median and R. G. McMurray, Dresden; G. R. Boling, Wooster; G. H. Krill, Ashland; C. W. Barnett, Carrollton; Charles Lenyo, New Lyme; and L. W. Smith, Chardon.

C. R. Fridline, OVA President, expresses his thanks to all teachers who have helped with this job.

This type of activity has been continued in recent years with a public affairs breakfast for members of the Ohio Legislature hosted by the Ohio FFA Association.

L. F. Crabbe, supervisor, made this summary of public relations activities carried on by OVATA in 1974.

Major activities developed during the years 1950 to 1974 include: Distribution of fill-in news articles, news releases, Vocational Agriculture Speakers Bureau – an active part in press work at the Ohio State Fair, Public relations training sessions with vocational agriculture teachers, County Public Relations Chairman, photograph coverage of major FFA and vocational agriculture activities. In 1973, more than 2,000 pictures were taken of vocational agriculture and FFA activities. The OVATA has budgeted $100 per year to help cover costs of public relations activities.

The 1973 slide series were developed, under the direction of James E. Dougan, complete with taped commentary to explain and promote vocational agriculture programs. Mr. Crabbe concludes: "It is necessary for every teacher and worker connected with vocational agriculture to accept the idea that he is molding public opinion through his contacts with students, parents, fellow teachers, administrators, and the public in general. All workers in vocational agriculture must accept the need for a well-planned and carefully executed program of instruction. However, a good program alone may not keep the public as well informed as the same good program that is explained periodically through mass media, such as newspapers, radio and television."

VIII. DEVELOPMENT OF THE FFA AND YFA

Had the development of the Ohio FFA and the Ohio Young Farmers Association been the only accomplishment of the OVATA, this would more than justify the efforts of the association. Both of these are important organizations of students of vocational agriculture and their birth and development have depended almost entirely upon the efforts of vocational agriculture teachers and their professional organization.

Rural young people enrolled in vocational agriculture programs in the early 20's sorely needed abilities in organizational activities and leadership as well as the development of additional personal, social and civic competencies. The early 20's were a time of depression for farm families after the short period of prosperity during World War I. Most families grew their own food including milk, eggs, fruit and vegetables. Farm families were isolated. Many lived on unimproved dirt roads and, although the Model T Ford was becoming popular, it could be used only about six months of the year when roads permitted. Radio was still ten years away. At the same time, farmers were finding cooperatives a promising solution to some of their problems. The Grange and Farm Bureau grew rapidly during the 20's as did many other farm cooperators.

These farm organizations and farmers themselves saw a need for training and experience in leadership activities.

Another factor favoring youth organizations in vocational agriculture was the success of 4-H clubs. These clubs were a new and growing force in most rural Ohio communities and in fact had their start in the nation in Champaign County under the leadership of A. B. Graham. Many vocational agriculture students of that day were former 4-H members or retained their 4-H membership while in high school.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT OF THE FFA

By 1922, most vocational agriculture students belonged to local "agricultural clubs" under the leadership of the vocational agriculture teachers. Many of these clubs had well-planned active programs which were similar to those of the FFA.

Popular activities of these agricultural clubs included parent-son banquets, pest hunts and community or school fairs. Farmers' institutes and other local organizations supported these clubs. Community service activities, such as seed corn testing and custom spraying were popular. Money was raised through cooperative broiler and orchard projects. Basketball, sometimes played in the members' barns, and softball were popular sports with these early agricultural society members. Trips to the State Fair for livestock judging and to the Experiment Station at Wooster were also popular.

By 1925, leadership conferences were held on The Ohio State University campus for high school officers of the new agricultural societies. The Townshend Agricultural Education Society had chartered 128 local societies by 1926. These early agricultural societies proved their worth to members, parents and teachers to such an extent that Ohio played a leading role in establishing the state and national organization of the Future Farmers of America.

In November of 1928, State Supervisor Ray Fife asked R. B. Warner, teacher of vocational agriculture at Ashley, and Lawrence Augenstein, one of his outstanding agricultural students, to represent Ohio at a meeting in Kansas City where the Future Farmers Organization was launched. All of these developments were strongly supported by the OVATA which then moved quickly to assist this newly-created groups.

Teachers and staff recognized the public relations value of the FFA and at their 1929 convention named as honorary members Dean Alfred Vivian of the College of Agriculture, Governor Myers Y. Cooper and L. J. Taber, Master of the Ohio State Grange.

OVATA devoted much of its energies to initiating new state FFA activities during the early 30's. Many of these activities have continued up to this time. Within three years after being organized, state activities included: a public speaking contest, a newsletter, sending delegates to the national convention, the election of state farmers, and exhibiting state and American farmer at the State Fair. Ralph E. Bender of Waldo was Ohio's first elected state president in 1929 and national vice president in 1930.

OVATA AND FFA CAMP MUSKINGUM

The establishment of FFA Camp Muskingum is a story in itself and only the direct contribution of OVATA can be included in this history. The initial interest and impetus for the camp came from teachers and staff and was referred to the association for action and support. The first camp committee met in 1940 and included seven teachers. These teachers were Ralph Burdick, Fremont, Chairman; Ralph Grimshaw, Mowrystown; Dale Friday, Tiro; C. T. Newsom, Coolville; Marion Wallace, Germantown; and D. L. Martin, Forest. This committee discussed camp possibilities with Bryce Browning, Zanesville, Director of the Muskingum Conservency District, Trent Sickles, a Columbus business leader, and others. After the camp became a reality, it was incorporated on December 18, 1941, as Ohio Future Farmers of

America Camps, Inc., with the Articles of Incorporation signed by OVATA President Ralph E. Burdick, State Supervisor Ralph A. Howard, and FFA Executive Secretary Warren G. Weiler. The camp has been operated by a camp board which included officers and representatives of OVATA as well as from the Ohio FFA. The following minutes[1] of this first meeting indicate the concern and interest of OVATA in the new camp:

> It was moved by John Foltz, Bremen, that the Ohio Association of Future Farmers of America membership on the Board of Trustees of the Ohio FFA Camps Incorporated consist of the officers and regional vice presidents of the Ohio FFA Association. Motion amended by Druyor, Continental, that the state be divided into five regions namely, Northwestern, North Central, Southern, Northeastern, and Eastern. Motion and amendment carried unaminously.
>
> It was moved by Clark, Fredericktown, seconded by Penrod, Huntsville, that the Vocational Agriculture Teachers membership on the Board of Trustees consist of the president and past president and a representative from each of the five regions and their term of office be for two years. Motion carried.

By 1974, a total of 1158 FFA members from 182 chapters attended camp and the total cost of the camping program was $28,590 for that year.

TEACHERS GUIDE STATE FFA PROGRAM

Attention to items like these has characterized the FFA support of Ohio vocational agriculture teachers since the inception of FFA in 1928.

Dr. Earl Kantner, Executive Secretary of the Ohio FFA Association says,

> "Needless to say, members of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association have had a monumental effect on the FFA program throughout the entire history of the FFA. Typical of the interest and concern is the devotion of critical time in the October 1972 OVATA Executive Committee meeting when they responded to three major items from the FFA Advisory Committee:
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> 1. Should large chapters be allowed multiple participation?

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[1] Unpublished Minutes of the Ohio FFA Camp Board. Columbus, OH: Ohio FFA Association. 1942.

2. Should we re-apportion state delegates?
3. Should we go to district state officer vice-presidents?

"After considerable discussion, they agreed to take these three items to every district meeting for discussion by all the teachers, so all could help in making decisions."

The OVATA has developed several specific groups to guide and assist the Ohio FFA Association. The FFA Advisory Committee which meets twice each year includes advisers from five regions in the state plus the past president of the OVATA. This group has made regular recommendations to the Executive Committee since it was organized in 1952.

Many notable achievements were wrought by ambitious teachers who saw the value of the FFA youth program, according to Executive Secretary Earl Kantner. One such early achievement was the idea and development of the now famous FFA

The McNutt brothers of Dunkirk, Ohio, set an unsurpassed record in agricultural education. Growing up on a 138-acre Hardin County farm, all 7 became State Farmers. Five graduated in agricultural education at The Ohio State University and three became vocational agriculture teachers. The other two brothers graduated in agricultural economics and veterinary medicine. Their father, Archie McNutt, was a farmer and veterans teacher and their vocational agriculture teacher was Lewis B. Rader of Hardin Northern. *Seated left to right:* Mrs. Mildred McNutt and Archie McNutt (now deceased); *standing left to right:* Ronald, Kenneth, Richard, Tom, Nelson, Gerald and William.

jacket – brain-child of J. H. Lintner, Fredericktown adviser at that time. He also developed a 30-member FFA Band which played at the 1933 National Convention and was considered by many to be the first "National FFA Band."

The first quarter-century of FFA was observed in 1953 with much acclaim for the work of teachers and FFA members in developing the size, scope and impact of FFA as an integral part of the total vocational agriculture program.

Ohio was fortunate to have had four outstanding FFA executive secretaries: Ralph A. Howard, Warren G. Weiler, D. R. Purkey and Earl F. Kantner. Each have made unique contributions which have made Ohio's FFA program one of the finest in the country. Two of these men also served most capably as State FFA Advisers – Ralph A. Howard and Warren G. Weiler.

FFA programs in Ohio have benefited from a series of research studies over the years. The first Master's thesis on FFA was by L. N. Geiger of Anna, Ohio, who evaluated local FFA programs in Ohio in 1933, only five years after the organization was founded. Warren G. Weiler of Fremont in 1941 studies the accomplishments of former State Farmers and, in 1944, M. E. Schmidt of Prospect studied the FFA Camp Program. A total of 20 research studies had been made by FFA programs by 1974 which provided a useful basis for program improvement.

Vocational agriculture teachers through OVATA and as individual teachers played a large role in the planning and development of the Ohio FFA Foundation which was organized in 1957, Jack Nowels, Loudonville, State OVATA President, was one of the original signers, and served as vice president of the Board of Trustees. Teachers have cooperated greatly in numerous changes which had to come about with an expanded vocational agriculture program. One such change occurred in 1961, when Vincent Feck, general horticulture instructor at West Technical High School in Cleveland, brought four gardening and horticulture students to camp. In 1962, the Cleveland School System established the first city vocational agriculture department, marking the advent of vocational agriculture and FFA in cities. Horticulture was subsequently added to the FFA awards program.

The OVATA Executive Committee and the FFA Advisory Committee under the leadership of President Rodger Hiller of Ashland approved further broadening the FFA program in 1964. A new agribusiness award and a new accounting award were approved. Girls were provided access to FFA membership in Ohio in 1964 upon advice of legal counsel and approval of the National FFA Office.

Under the leadership of Adrian Roberts, President of OVATA, vocational agriculture teachers, FFA members, state staff and others worked together in 1968 to celebrate the "50-40 Year" – 50 years of vocational agriculture and 40 years of FFA. They initiated an important activity – a legislative "FFA Leadership-Citizenship Day" – held in March of 1969 which was so successful it is still continued as a most important OVATA-FFA activity. In that year, the acceptance of non-farm FFA was tested among teachers as Bill Zmich of the Cleveland West Tech FFA Chapter was named Star Farmer of Ohio. It is noteworthy that this major deviation from the tradition of "farm-boy-only" success was generally accepted by the teachers of Ohio.

HELPING THE FFA ADJUST TO CHANGE

The OVATA Executive Committee and the FFA Advisory Committee further updated the FFA in 1970 with acceptance of FFA blazers as optional dress. This was a major change, especially for state officers who at times benefitted from the "dressed-up" look as they represented their fellow members and teachers on various occasions.

Teachers had a major impact on the FFA Alumni movement when it got off the ground in 1972 with Jerome Donovan, the first State Chairman. Much original groundwork was laid, providing a foundation for future growth and development. J. E. Parrish, President of OVATA, gave leadership to this important innovation.

A distinguished group of retirees and their wives at a recognition banquet. *Left to right:* Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Kreglow – Ada, 1962; Mr. and Mrs. Earl Hetrick – Ontario, 1962; Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Flemming – Vaughnsville, 1962; Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Tressler – Delta, 1962; Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Bolender – Hilliard, 1963; and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph A. Howard – Columbus, 1963.

FFA adjustment to an "all-taxonomy" concept continued through 1972, 1973 and 1974 with acceptance by teachers, the OVATA Executive Committee judging-skill contests and an overall new philosophy of a "total FFA family."

Perhaps the most traumatic move of all was made when the State FFA Advisory Committee at the February 1974 meeting voted to seek approval of the OVATA Executive Committee to select and recognize FFA State Degree recipients by taxonomy. The Executive Committee, chaired by President Jack Devitt, voted approval and forms were subsequently developed and distributed for 1975 participants.

The FFA Advisory Board established in 1946 has a similar representation and relationship with OVATA. This board meets twice each year and makes recommendations on the entire FFA program to the OVATA. In addition, OVATA is represented on the Ohio FFA Foundation committee by three teacher members.

Many OVATA members have been recognized by the Ohio FFA through the award of the State and American Farmer Degrees to advisers and staff members. John Leonard, adviser,to the Van Wert FFA, was Ohio's first honorary American Farmer in 1944 when his chapter received a gold award in the National Chapter Contest. A list of Honorary American Farmers is included in the Appendix (see Page 184).

TEACHER SUPPORT FOR YOUNG FARMER EDUCATION

While vocational agriculture teachers recognized the unique needs of young farmers when the program was first established, a state organization similar to FFA did not evolve until 1948. There were reasons for this delay in terms of changing opportunities for young farmers and in differing philosophies of vocational agriculture teachers.

As early as 1921, State Supervisor Ray Fife submitted a plan to the State Board for Vocational Education which included provisions for "Part-Time Instruction," as young farmer education was termed at that time.

The first short course especially for young farmers was offered by W. F. Bruce of Hamilton Township, Franklin County in 1922. Bruce found that his students wanted to do more than have agricultural meetings. They wanted to visit each others' farms, to make trips to agricultural cooperatives, to play basketball, and to hold picnics, parties and social affairs. He accordingly developed such a program to supplement his short course and met with much success. Bruce also surveyed the possibilities of similar programs in other vocational agriculture departments and published his results in 1925. This study and young farmer program expansion received much attention during the next five years.

By 1928, 55 departments were offering part-time courses for young farmers and most of them had organized "Young Mens Farming Clubs."[2] The growth in the number of young farmer programs continued until in 1941 when there were 222 programs enrolling over 4500 members. World War II, however, greatly curtailed programs and by 1945 only 772 members were reported in the state.

Two factors helped make Ohio a leader in young farmer programs in the nation and both depended upon the support of vocational agriculture teachers and the OVATA. The first factor was that, during the depression years of the 30's, there were many young men on farms who could find no employment elsewhere. This fact was documented in a series of state studies made by J. B. McClelland of the Department of Agricultural Education at The Ohio State University. McClelland's studies[3] involved most of the teachers making surveys of young farmer members in their communities and often resulted in teachers finding more young farmers than they expected. Altogether 20 studies of young farmer programs were made by Ohio teachers. Other early studies in addition to those of Bruce and McClelland included F. M. Ruble's thesis study of the *Development of Young Mens Farming Clubs in Ohio* in 1930 and a study of 15 selected Young Farmer Associations in Ohio made by Ray Fife in 1948.[4]

A second factor which helped the YFA in Ohio was the support of the Regional Vocational Agriculture Specialists from the U. S. Office of Education. C. H. Lane, James Pearson and A. W. Tenney all supported the idea of the *Complete Program of Vocational Agriculture* which included three major clientele groups – high school students, young farmers and adult farmers. This idea, in turn, was encouraged by the Ohio staff and was discussed in many an Executive Committee meeting during the 40's and 50's. One of the issues during this period was whether both adults and young farmers could best meet together as one group. Some teachers were strong supporters of each alternative, but finally, the separate programs for young farmers began to demonstrate their success and become accepted practice.

These events led the OVATA and the state staff to organize a State Young Farmers Council February 7, 1948, on the OSU campus. This latter developed into the Ohio Young Farmers Association. F. J. Ruble served as executive secretary to the association until 1961.

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[2] Ruble, F. J. *The Organization and Development of Young Mens Farming Clubs in Ohio.* (Unpublished Master's Thesis, The Ohio State University, 1930). p. 18.

[3] McClelland, John B. *Opportunities for Placement and Establishment on Farms in Selected Ohio Communities Where Vocational Agriculture Is Taught.* (Unpublished Ph.D. Dissertation, The Ohio State University, 1940). p. 24.

[4] Fife, Ray. *The Objectives Procedures and Practices of Fifteen Selected Young Farmer Associations in Ohio.* Staff Study. Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. 1948.

The first *Ohio Young Farmers Manual*[5] was prepared by Ralph E. Bender and assisted by George Luster, a graduate assistant in 1953. This mimeographed publication included a copy of the first constitution and by-laws of the Ohio Association of Young Farmers of America which was adopted March 3, 1951. This revision was developed primarily by H. D. Brum of the vocational agriculture staff and Executive Secretary of the Ohio Young Farmers Association.

AN EXPANDING YFA PROGRAM

During the period 1950 to 1970, the program of the Ohio YFA expanded and included an awards program that was made possible through contributions from agricultural businesses and industries. Awards were given the Ohio Young Farmer of the Year, Outstanding YFA Association Program, Corn Production, Dairy Production, Ohio Young Farmer's Wife, and Community Service. The YFA began holding an annual two-day conference including programs for the wives in 1958. Other activities during the year have included area tours, leadership conferences, annual state YFA camp programs at FFA Camp Muskingum, and the publication of a newsletter of the Ohio YFA issued four times per year. These programs were developed primarily by the Young Farmers Council and the joint state staff. Executive secretaries of the YFA have included Floyd Ruble, H. D. Brum, and Richard Hummel.

The first Young Farmer sessions in February 7 and 8, 1948, in Ives Hall of The Ohio State University directed toward the consideration of the problems involved in the balanced individual development of more capable young farmers and the establishment and more effective functioning of local YFA programs. Many teachers, supervisory staff members and teacher educators were involved, including: Glen Boling, Wooster; John Everett, Monroeville; James Rush, Newton Township; John Leonard, Van Wert; R. B. Rader, Clay Township; Raymond Deacon, West Jefferson: and Glen Griffith, Westerville. Staff members who assisted with the meeting included D. R. Purkey, Paul Pulse, Floyd Ruble, Warren G. Weiler, Ralph Howard, Ralph J. Woodin, Ralph E. Bender, Ray Fife, and W. F. Stewart. On the program were Dean L. L. Rummell of the College of Agriculture, The Ohio State University, and J. R. Strobel, Director of Vocational Education.

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[5] Bender, Ralph E. and Lester, George W. *Ohio Young Farmers Manual.* Columbus, OH: Department of Agricultural Education, The Ohio State University. 1953

OVATA CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OHIO YFA

During the past 25 years, the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association has helped the state staff and elected teachers as council members make many decisions important to the progress of the Ohio Young Farmers Association. According to Richard Hummel, Executive Secretary of the Ohio YFA, some of the important activities of the Ohio YFA which were supported by OVATA in recent years include the following:

- Assisted in the contributing membership program initiated in 1966
- Helped to conduct the five area President's seminars initiated in 1965
- Helped to conduct the early one-day state YFA tours and then the five YFA area tours that were initiated in 1966
- The OVATA officers worked closely with the AVA to start the National Young Farmers Educational Institute at the AVA Convention in Cleveland in 1967. The 8th Institute was held in Oklahoma City in 1974.
- In 1968, with the help of the local advisers, members of the OVATA assisted the state YFA council to begin a teacher recognition luncheon at the annual two-day conference. This was started to honor teachers who have served young farmers at the local level on an organized basis for 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 years.

Teachers with over 10 years of service as YFA advisers who have been recognized include: Glen Griffith, Westerville; Ralph Young, Holgate; Odell Miller, Marysville; James Neff, Wynford; Robert Phillips, Madison Plains; Dale Scott, Albany; James Adams, Jonathan Alder; Alfred Cramton, Lynchburg-Clay; Karl McNeal, Kenton; Franklin Deeds, Cory-Rawson; Dale Crossen, Willard; James Bratton, Mowrystown; Carl Nagy, Hillsdale; Earl James, Tri-Valley; Edgar Fawley, Hillsboro; and Daniel Grube, Eaton.

The OVATA members serve as advisers of the elected council members and assist the State Council to select award recipients in the areas of Young Farmer of the Year, Young Homemaker of the Year, Beef, Dairy, Swine, Community Service, Corn Yield and Efficiency, Soybean Yield and Efficiency, and Chapter Contests.

Recognized for 30 years of service in 1968 were three teachers and their wives. *Left to right:* Mr. and Mrs. Glen Griffith, Westerville; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Smith, Delphos; and Mr. and Mrs. Chester Zimmerman, Mt. Vernon.

Also, OVATA members serve as advisers to the council and assist in the statewide YFA activities including the Annual Conference, Tours, President's Seminars, Camp Weekend and other promotional activities. In 1974, as an example, local teachers who assisted were: Richard Gardner, Eastwood; Ray Clevenger, Tinora; Robert Buxton, River View; Howard Siegrist, Canal Winchester; Tom Kremer, Ken Badertscher, Montgomery County AVC; Dennis Swartz, Ridgedale; Phil Hulse, River Valley; James Cooper, Elida; Alfred Cramton, Lynchburg-Clay; James Ketcham, Fairfield Union; Archie Fruth, Hopewell-Loudon; James Adams, Jonathan Alder; and Donald Bucher, Paint Valley.

- The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association Executive Committee is a contributing member to the Ohio Young Farmers Association
- The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association has had the Young Farmers Association President make a presentation at the annual Teachers Conference each year since 1970 to promote Young Farmer activities and to present the yearly program of activities

THE NEXT FIFTY YEARS

"Incredible, impossible and downright ridiculous" – these terms would have been used by the founders of Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association had someone in 1925 prophesied that, by 1975, vocational agriculture enrollment would quadruple, that more than a thousand young farmers would attend a state banquet, that a girl would be named an American Farmer and that preparation would be offered for fifty agricultural careers in addition to farming. Even greater changes in agricultural education are forecast for the next fifty years and therein lies a challenge to future OVATA members and officers as they use their professional organization for maximizing education for agriculture in Ohio.

Simply stated, OVATA must lead its members to make desirable changes in methods, in curriculum and in activities for the benefit of all those who want and need vocational education in agriculture and, at the same time, build upon the sound policies and programs which have been developed during the past half century.

Meeting such expectations will require an association which is progressive, flexible, democratic and responsible to its constituents and its clientele. This review suggests some areas which should be included in future programs of work as indicated by major chapter headings. These areas include:

1. Developing leadership in the members
2. Arriving at sound state and local policies to guide the program
3. Maintaining membership
4. Program planning
5. Developing needed curriculum materials
6. Fostering public relations
7. Developing meaningful student organizations

Thoughtful evaluation of OVATA activities will become more and more important. The following criteria, recommended to NVATA by the author in 1973, are suggested as a basis for such evaluation.[1]

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[1] Woodin, Ralph J. *The NVATA as a Political Pressure Group.* **Agricultural Education.** Vol. 46, No. 5. (November, 1973), pp. 108-109.

HOW EFFECTIVE IS THE OVATA

1. Does the organization result in real professional improvement for a high percentage of its members?
2. Does the organization itself have a positive image; is it the type of organization that teachers are proud to belong to?
3. Does the public relations program of the organization extend to and benefit most of the members?
4. Is the organization achieving desirable political and economic advantages for the membership?
5. Is there a sound base of facts, information and data supporting the legislative program?
6. Is the organization helping the members to understand changes which are occurring in the field?

Reviewing recording and analyzing the professional activities, efforts and accomplishments of this organization over a fifty-year period gives one a sense of pride in the character of its members and in its unique partnership of staff and teachers working for common goals. It also suggests that, while details of the future are impossible to discern, OVATA has built a solid foundation and that its future as an organization is bright indeed as it continues to provide education for agriculture.

IX. THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE OVATA

Ohio teachers of vocational agriculture have been an active group starting with their first employment, January 1, 1919, to initiate a program of agricultural education among rural people. Their number, 19, was small by present day standards, but they immediately showed an enthusiastic and highly professional attitude. This is so evident among dedicated agricultural educators to this day. They enlarged the original concept of only a high school program to include adults by organizing adult farmer classes, thereby, providing a comprehensive type of community service.

Vocational agriculture teachers participated in many county, district, state and national meetings to exchange ideas on the philosophy of vocational agriculture and how it could be effectively implemented. This undoubtedly was a major factor in the development of what has proved to be one of the most effective educational programs in the nation.

The information contained in this chapter relates, by years, to the growth and development of a vocational agriculture teachers organization in Ohio and many of the individuals who had a prominent part in its development. The sources were minutes of meetings, articles, annual conference programs carefully preserved by Horace Hummell and Julius Kreglow, a *History of Vocational Agriculture in Ohio* compiled largely by the late Lloyd Fidler, the *Ohio Future Farmer Magazine* and memories of people who lived and worked in the field during this period. Unfortunately much information regarding significant activities and the people responsible for them is not available.

The OVATA Committee, appointed to plan for a 50-year celebration, decided that the highlights of the available information regarding the development of the organization should be assembled and this chapter includes this information as it transpired. Additional and more detailed information is contained in the Appendix (see Pages 177 through 196).

EVENTS PRIOR TO 1917

Some agriculture was being taught in Ohio schools:

- A. B. Graham, as County Superintendent of Schools, initiated a program of agricultural instruction in the Clark County schools in 1902.
- New Holland, Pickaway County, taught agriculture in 1907.

- Fifty township schools in Ohio taught agriculture in 1908.
- Agriculture was taught in the Fremont City Schools in 1911 with full-time agriculturally-trained teachers since 1914.

In 1911, the Ohio Legislature passed legislation requiring the teaching of agriculture in elementary schools in rural and village districts although these were not vocational as defined in the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917. Corn Clubs were organized by the Ohio Department of Education (1912 – 1916) under the direction of one of the High School Supervisors of Agriculture, J. R. Clarke. The purpose was to stimulate good methods in the production of corn and the winners received free trips to Washington, D. C.

The Smith-Hughes Act was passed February 23, 1917. It contained provisions for reimbursing local schools when vocational agriculture classes were taught and for the training of vocational agriculture teachers, a profession not recognized prior to this time.

The Cleveland School Garden program was initiated in 1904. This resulted in an interest in horticulture which caused many urban students to follow careers in horticulture and conservation.

1917 - 1918

W. F. Stewart, Supervisor and Chairman, Agricultural Education Department, OSU

Wilbur R. Stewart, a graduate of the University of Wisconsin, was asked to initiate the vocational agriculture program in Ohio. This selection was made by Alfred Vivian, Dean of The Ohio State University College of Agriculture. Mr. Stewart had taught agriculture in Minnesota and had some administrative experience in Illinois schools. He was invited to visit the campus May 1, 1917, and was employed as of September 1, 1917. His salary was $2250 per year.

Dean Alfred Vivian urged The Ohio State University to immediately organize a teacher training program for high school teachers of vocational agriculture. President Thompson concurred.

Nineteen Departments of Vocational Agriculture were approved as of January 1, 1917. Reimbursement was $1000 per department (see Appendix for list). The Worthington Vocational Agriculture Department was approved in 1918 as the first practice school for the training of vocational agriculture teachers. These training schools, until 1948, were located near Columbus to facilitate supervision and coordination.

Early occupational experience was on a *project* basis. Teaching procedures were developed around these projects with emphasis on the science related to these projects. This was the general plan until the late thirties when the integrated instructional program based on *farming programs* was developed.

Willard Wolf enrolled in the Liverpool Township, Medina Vocational Agriculture Department; E. W. Budd, Adviser.

1918 - 1919

W. F. Stewart, Supervisor and Chairman, Agricultural Education

New Staff:

E. F. Johnson, Agricultural Education

Reimbursement to existing departments, $1000. New departments, $1300.

The vocational agriculture teachers met unofficially. This is regarded as the first conference. The *Resolutions* of the 1927 Conference identify the 1927 Conference as the *Ninth Annual Conference.*

Forty new departments were approved and salaries average $1920.

1919 - 1920

W. F. Stewart, Supervisor and Chairman, Agricultural Education

New Staff:

H. W. Nisonger, Agricultural Education

H. G. Kenestrick, Itinerant Agricultural Education

Fifty-eight departments were approved.

The State approved pro-rating of salaries when non-vocational subjects were taught in addition to vocational agriculture.

The recruitment of teachers in sufficient quantity was a problem. The Townshend Literary Society, now the Agricultural Education Society, gave the trainees additional leadership experience in speaking and working together.

To improve local teachers who had received limited teacher training, Mr. Kenestrick was loaned to local Boards of Education to assume the local teacher's responsibilities for one week so he could participate in a teacher training program at The Ohio State University.

1920 - 1921

W. F. Stewart, Supervisor and Chairman, Agricultural Education

New Staff:

Ray Fife, Assistant Supervisor

The State continued to give $1300 to new departments, $1000 to existing departments. The extra money was for equipment and supplies.

Following a regional meeting in Chicago, Dean Vivian quoted a general opinion, freely voiced, that Ohio promises to be the "Center for vocational agriculture" in the country.

The Annual Descriptive Report to Washington stated:

> "In the opinion of the general Ohio high school supervisors, the class instruction which they have observed in vocational agriculture ranked as the best in the state."

1921 - 1922

E. O. Bolender, President, Ashley

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agriculture Education

The State Board for Vocational Education approved out-of-school programs.

- The Federal Report designated these as "part-time" or "dull season" courses.
- The first Young Farmer program was conducted in Hamilton Township, Franklin County; W. H. Bruce, instructor.
- The first Young Mens Farming Club was organized by Mr. Bruce.
- Mr. Bruce was employed to assist teachers in Farm Shop instruction on a state-wide basis.

1922 - 1923

E. O. Bolender, President, Ashley

Ray Fife, Supervisor
W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education

An Annual Conference held with all but one teacher present. Murray Lincoln, Ohio Farm Bureau, speaker.

Reimbursement pattern changed to 50%, up to $2500; plus $300 generally considered as reimbursement for travel.

Two-day district vocational agriculture teacher meetings were started. Classes were observed followed by critical discussion and evaluation.

Criticism of "high" vocational agriculture salaries resulted in a study of salaries. Conclusion: Vocational Agriculture salaries were $20.00 per month less than "regular" men teachers' salaries.

A 50% increase in adult courses was reported. Reimbursement, $3.00 per session, for travel and other expenses.

Vocational agriculture student, Paul Pulse, Sr., produced two of first 39 ton litters; Thomas Berry, Adviser.

1923 - 1924

Ray Fife, Supervisor
W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education

Annual Conference held with 153 of 154 teachers present. A net gain of 22 departments, a total of 154.

R. R. Clymer employed in Logan County as County Supervisor – one-half time to promote vocational agriculture, instruct and supervise evening classes; one-half time as Assistant County Superintendent.

Six joint positions, half-time superintendent, half-time vocational agriculture, approved.

One hundred short courses held, some with special instructors, but more taught by vocational agriculture teachers.

Emphasis in vocational agriculture primarily placed on three phases of the program:

- Supervised practice
- Evening course work
- Program of work by every teacher based on his community needs

A State Agricultural Council was formed – vocational agriculture included as a member. Purpose was to discuss agricultural subjects and problems.

Ralph Woodin enrolled as a vocational student in the Chardon, Ohio Department; George Talbot, Adviser.

1924 - 1925

E. R. Tam, President, Kenton

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Ralph Richardson, Supervisor

Harold Kenestrick, Agricultural Education

First Judging Contest held at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station, Wooster. The Ohio State Fair Livestock Judging Contests were also initiated; $1200 in prizes was given by the Ohio Bankers' Association..

The first Educational Field Day at the OAES for vocational agriculture teachers was held. This was the result of teacher-staff planning as shown by the minutes.

The Ohio State Grange leadership declared – "There should be an agriculturally trained, rural-minded teacher in every Ohio rural high school."

Terminology identified: "Evening courses for adults"
"Part-time courses for young farmers"

Teachers started to develop *Farming Programs* rather than *Projects*.

A high school program in horticulture was initiated in West Technical High School, Cleveland. L. D. Mennell, Greensprings, President of the Vocational Agriculture Teachers in 1926, played a major role in its development.

1925 - 1926

C. D. Steiner, President, Pandora

George Johnson, Vice President

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural

C. H. Ross, Secretary-Treasurer, Coshocton

Education, OSU

New Staff:

John McClelland, Itinerant Teacher Education

A. C. Kennedy, Farm Mechanics, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – August 3 - 6, Lazenby Hall (Horticulture and Forestry)

The Ohio vocational agriculture teachers adopted the Illinois plan of having a permanent organization of 11 districts with chairmen who, with the officers, constituted the Executive Committee. Two meetings were held per year, one during the school year and one during Summer Conference. A Constitution for the Ohio Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers, later the OVATA, was apparently developed at this time. A copy, (see Appendix on Page 185) was filed in a 1926 folder. It bears the names of six men who were vocational agriculture teachers at

Testing seed corn was a popular vocational agriculture community service project in Waldo.

that time: Merriam, Vanderpoel, Talbot, Howard, Ross and McAnall. In addition, the name Wallser appears but this person is not identified anywhere as a vocational agriculture teacher.

The Townshend Literary Society became the Townshend Agricultural Education Society and sponsored 128 high school agricultural societies, chartered by the Townshend Agricultural Education Society. These later became FFA chapters.

A Columbus *Dispatch* article: Opposed "Courses that chain boys to the farm;" Supported "Broad general training for the development of citizenship." This opinion of vocational agriculture was expressed for many years.

The State Corn Borer Control or Eradication Campaign, not popular, resulted in additional criticism of vocational agriculture teachers as they supported it.

Young Mens Farming Clubs were organized in 17 schools.

Dairy Judging was added to the Judging Contest program.

1926 - 1927

L. D. Mennel, President, Greensprings

J. F. Johnson, Vice President, Greenfield

C. H. Ross, Secretary-Treasurer, Coshocton

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

Mr. Ross resigned December 11, 1926, and H. M. Doyle was appointed to succeed.

CONFERENCE – July 25 - 29, Wooster; Afternoon programs at the Experiment Station.

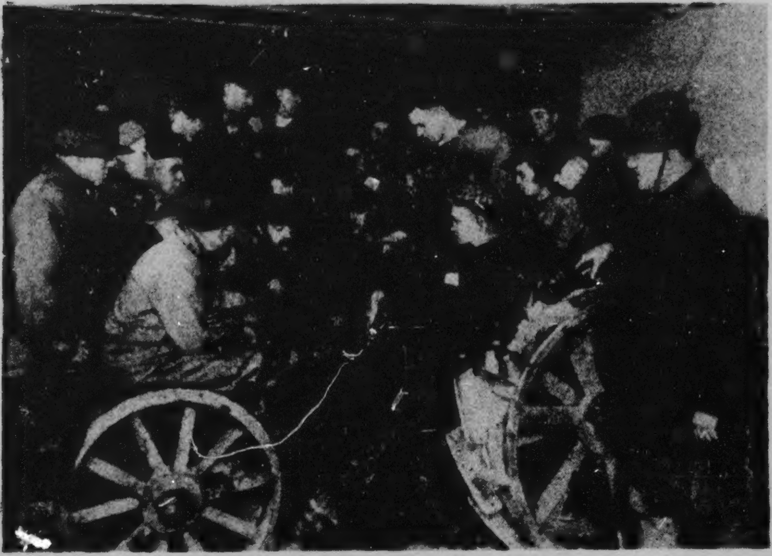
Speakers: Mr. Jardine, Secretary of Agriculture
Paul Chapman, Vocational Agriculture Director, Georgia; Author of the *Green Hand.*
Mr. Thomas, Vocational Agriculture Director, North Carolina

Kenton became the largest department in Ohio and employed two teachers.

Apple and Poultry Judging were added to the Judging Contests.

The Joint Stock Land Bank Accounting Contest started; 207 teachers entered.

Agricultural Clubs, Achievement Clubs or Agricultural Societies were organized in many departments, forerunners of the FFA. The vocational agriculture teachers approved a plan to have a conference of delegates from these local groups in



This tractor course at Germantown was one of the early ones.

cooperation with representatives from the Townshend Agricultural Education Society.

Many departments were testing seed corn by the "rag doll" method as a community service.

1927 - 1928

H. B. Vanderpoel, President, Marietta	Ray Fife, Supervisor
J. F. Johnson, Vice President, Greenfield	W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU
Herman Gaebel, Secretary-Treasurer Barnesville	

CONFERENCE – July 30 - August 3, Wooster

Speakers: L. H. Dennis, Director, Vocational Education, Pennsylvania
T. T. Brown, Director, Vocational Education, North Carolina

Joseph Fichter, Master, Ohio State Grange – *How Grange and Vocational Agriculture Can Work Together.*

The Judging Contests were transferred from the Ohio State Fair to OSU.

Former Vocational Agriculture President Mennell left Green Springs to teach horticulture in the Cleveland schools giving it an unofficial but distinctive vocational trend. This proved significant throughout the next 40 years.

A survey showed that "lack of money and teachers" resulted in "only half of the vocational agriculture service is being rendered that should be."

Mr. Kenestrick and Economist Cap Arnold worked with vocational agriculture teachers to develop the *Farming Program Plan and Record Book* used with minor changes until 1962.

Teachers developed Programs of Work in District Meetings resulting in the first state-wide program of work. This was approved during Annual Conference.

Ralph Bender, Waldo vocational agriculture student, produced the Grand Champion steer in the Cleveland Livestock Show selling for $2200; Lloyd Fidler, Adviser.

Ohio teachers had 65 Young Farmer Clubs in operation.

1928 - 1929

A. C. Kennedy, President, Worthington

J. S. Johnson, Vice President, Greenfield

Lloyd Fidler, Secretary-Treasurer, Waldo

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

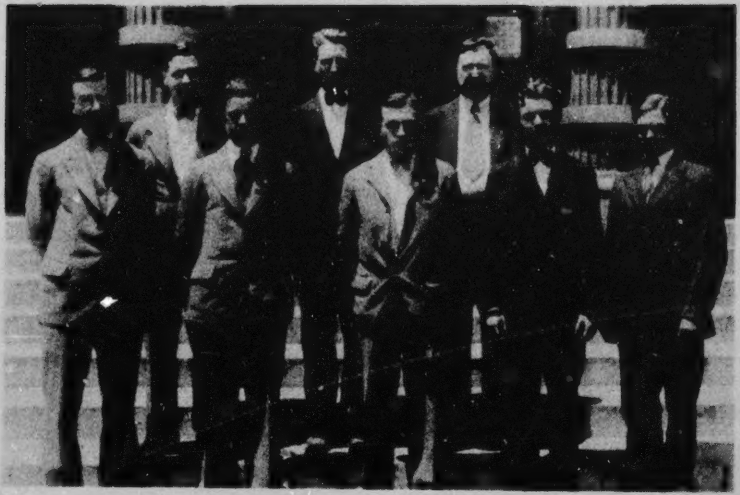
Lyman Jackson, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – July 30 - August 3, Lazenby Hall (Horticulture and Forestry)

Speakers: L. J. Taber, Master, National Grange – *Responsibilities of Vocational Agriculture Teachers.*
Walter Kirk, Master, Ohio State Grange.
Joseph Milligan, President, Grove City Young Farmers – *The Program of a Live and Going Young Mens Farming Club.*

L. J. Taber was highly commended for his support of Federal Vocational Funds.

A Public Speaking Contest was held, financed from the Joe Wing Memorial Fund. Mr. Wing from Mechanicsburg was a pioneer in the development of alfalfa.



First Ohio FFA officers: *Back row:* Ralph Howard, Executive Secretary; Larry Augenstein, Ashley; Ray Fife, Adviser; *Front row:* Paul Hartsook, Worthington; Howard Robinson, Atwater; Ralph Bender, Waldo; Robert Lane, Marietta; and Ray Dillinger, Hilliard.

Apple and Potato Judging Contests were initiated during Farmers' Week at OSU. A Leadership Conference with separate sessions for young farmers was held. The Agricultural Education Society gave leadership.

The Future Farmers of America organization was created in Kansas City in November. Mr. Fife could not attend but sent staff member John McClelland along with R. B. Warner, vocational agriculture teacher at Ashley and delegates Lawrence Augenstein and Robert Shaw, members of the Ashley Judging Team which was competing in the National Contests at that time. Lawrence Augenstein was elected vice president of the national organization.

During a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association held December 8, 1928, the following action was taken: "It was moved by Mr. Haskins and seconded by Mr. Wean: That we adopt the FFA idea and proceed further toward state organization." The motion carried and the following committee was appointed by President Kennedy to work out a definite plan for Ohio's FFA organization: Ralph Howard, W. F. Stewart and R. B. Warner of Ashley. "It was suggested that our state organization of FFA be in some way affiliated with the Townshend Agriculture Society Education of The Ohio State University."

The Ohio FFA was organized February 7 - 9, 1919, with staff members Ray Fife, John McClelland, Ralph Howard and Ashley teacher, R. B. Warner, giving leadership. Lawrence Augenstein was elected the first president and served until May. Ray Fife served as Adviser and Ralph Howard Executive Secretary-Treasurer. The Ohio FFA Charter was received April 20, 1929, the 14th state. Dues $.20. Nineteen State Farmers were elected and two Honorary State Farmers, Dean Alfred Vivian and Myers Y. Cooper, Governor of Ohio.

Vocational agriculture exhibits at the State Fair was discussed and a letter encouraging them was sent to State Officials.

President A. C. Kennedy was given $50.00 expense money to attend the AVA in Philadelphia. A National Organization of Teachers of Vocational Agriculture was discussed in Philadelphia. Kennedy and W. F. Stewart spoke briefly about this possibility and presented a resolution favoring such an organization. It was tabled.

The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Ton Litter Club was organized.

The minutes of the April 20, 1929, Executive Committee meeting of the OVATA include the following: "The matter of renaming all local vocational agriculture societies and designating them as local chapters of FFA was discussed. It was decided that each chairman should try to influence the teachers of his district to apply for their charters as local chapters of 'A.' "

1929 - 1930

L. B. Fidler, President, Waldo

Herman Gaebel, Vice President Barnesville

L. N. Geiger, Secretary-Treasurer Fort Recovery

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Chester Hutchison, Supervisor

CONFERENCE – July 7 - 11, Lazenby Hall (Horticulture and Forestry)

Speakers: Bryan Sandles, – *Put Vocational Agriculture on the Map Through the State Fair.*
J. H. Pearson, U. S. Office of Education – *Organizing Instruction.*
W. T. Spanton, U. S. Office of Education – *Projecting Accounting.*

First FFA radio broadcast by Robert Lane, FFA Treasurer, later a teacher and a casualty of World War II.

Plans made to meet with the American Institute of Cooperation in Columbus.

The Marion County FFA Band participated in the National FFA Convention – Marion County FFA Advisers in charge.

First *FFA News Letter* published, Ralph Howard, editor. Later this became the *Ohio Future Farmer.* FFA dues reduced from $.30 to $.25.

Ray Fife elected President of the OVA; President Fidler attended the AVA meeting in New Orleans.

James Dougan enrolled in vocational agriculture in the Pennsville Department; Harold Pickering, Adviser.

1930 - 1931

H. H. Gaebel, President Barnesville

S. L. Rudell, Vice President, Bethel, Clark County

A. W. Short, Secretary-Treasurer Hillsboro

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Chester Hutchison, Supervisor

CONFERENCE – August 4 - 7, Wooster; teachers staged a softball tournament by districts.

Speakers: Pat Wuichet – Swine.

District No. 3 teachers conducted a District FFA Camp. Forty-five Future Farmers from nine schools attended.

First FFA booths exhibited at the Ohio State Fair.

In spite of depleted budgets, demand for vocational agriculture departments greatest since 1917.

Dr. Stewart wrote and published *Helps in Mastering Parliamentary Procedure,* the authority used in all FFA Chapter Business Procedure Contests.

Ohio vocational agriculture teachers popularized hybrid seed corn through demonstration plots.

L. L. Rummell elected President of the OVA.

1931 - 1932

H. M. Doyle, President, Wooster

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

Vocational agriculture funds cut 15% by State Executive Order along with other departments.

Vocational agriculture teachers worked closely with the State Staff in seeking more support for vocational agriculture and for a comprehensive program of state support for education.

The Farm Business Planning and Analysis Program originated in Knox County.

- Teachers participating were: J. H. Lintner, Warren Nesbitt, George Everhart, William Stewart and Tom Wheeler.
- The original group consisted of 125 farmers.
- The group was named the Farm Improvement Club.
- Teachers did not make management decisions for farmers but helped them determine and evaluate factors.

1932 - 1933

S. L. Ruddell, President, Bethel, Clark County

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

The Ohio Future Farmer was started with three issues during the year.

Listed 168 active chapters, 20 inactive.

Records of the American Farmers were reviewed:

- Thomas Collett, Chester Township, Clinton County
- Vernon Benroth, Vaughnsville
- Lloyd Stockdale, Westerville
- Leo Braun, Ashland

The Executive Committee offered a prize to the Chapter submitting the best design for the cover page. Jackson, Stark County, sent the winning design which was used until 1950.

The Ohio Director of Finance recommended that the state cease to provide funds for vocational education.

Vocational agriculture in Ohio was saved by effective action by Ray Fife who was aided by the Ohio Grange, The Ohio Farm Bureau, local farm groups and influential farmers who sent wires and letters to state and federal legislators. Vocational agriculture teachers worked by county and district groups in getting support and organizing local groups who met with Governor White in Columbus. A very gloomy outlook was reversed and vocational education was given prior claim on a tax on motor fuels and oils.

Vocational agriculture teachers were asked to assist with "Relief Gardens" on a local basis.

Adult classes emphasized Farm Credit, Taxation and Agricultural Adjustment – a government program to reduce surpluses and help prices.

1933 - 1934

Paul Cunningham, President, Shreve

D. B. Robinson, Vice President, Kenton

Paul Pulse, Secretary-Treasurer, Hillsboro

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – August 23 - 27, Lazenby Hall (Horticulture and Forestry)

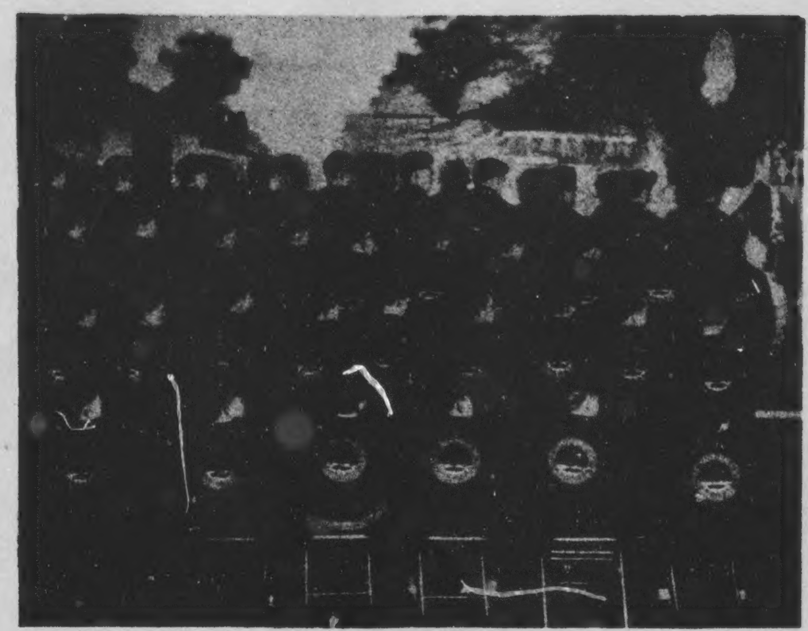
Speakers: L. H. Dennis, Executive Secretary-Treasurer AVA
Perry Green, President, Ohio Farm Bureau – *Our Present Agricultural Problems.*
B. O. Skinner, Director of Education – *Ohio's Need for School Financing.*

The Fredericktown FFA Band was the official band during the National FFA Convention; J. H. Lintner, Adviser.

- Blue FFA jackets with emblem designed by Mr. Lintner, were first worn during this convention in Kansas City.
- Robert Jones, Radnor, was elected National FFA President; J. H. Warner, Adviser. Later Bobbie was an Ohio vocational agriculture teacher and also served as Ohio State Fair manager. Now deceased.

Ray Fife elected Honorary American Farmer; also L. J. Taber, Master, National Grange.

The demand for vocational agriculture departments became greater during the depression, proof of the effectiveness of the work of Ohio vocational agriculture teachers.



The Fredericktown FFA Band, designated as the official band during the 1933 National FFA Convention, shows off the FFA jacket with emblem designed by Adviser J. H. Lintner.

One thousand and seventy-eight students elected Farm Accounts – 714 completed them; 645 ton litters were produced by Ohio Future Farmers. (A ton litter is recognized when a ton of pork is produced from one litter in six months.)

W. F. Stewart was elected President of the OVA.

1934 - 1935

Warren Weiler, President, Fremont

W. S. Krout, Vice President, Pleasantville

S. L. Beaty, Secretary, Rawson

Fay Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – June 12 - 13, Botany and Zoology Building, OSU.

Thrust: *Agricultural Adjustment Act – Control of Crop and Livestock Production to Effect Better Prices. Teaching Cooperation emphasized.*

Speakers: Murray D. Lincoln, Ohio Farm Bureau – *The Place of Cooperation in the Present Agricultural Situation.*
R. M. Hunter, OSU College of Law – *Rural Electrification and Cooperation.*
James Robinson, Farm Credit Administrator, Washington – *Farm Credit.*

Ninety-five percent of the teachers had "part-time" or "evening" classes.

Only 1 in 10 requests for new departments could be financed.

Plowing under crops and killing little pigs suggested to cut surplus and increase prices. Teachers assisted in explaining the provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act.

Earl Blayney, State FFA President and later a teacher of vocational agriculture, suggested an FFA camp during an Executive Committee meeting.

President Weiler was sent to the AVA Convention in Pittsburgh by the OVATA.

Monroeville barely missed first place in the National Judging Contests; Archie Bishop, Adviser.

A pattern for extension-vocational agriculture teacher relationships was developed by a vocational agriculture teacher-county agent-staff committee.

1935 - 1936

John Everett, President, Monroeville

S. L. Beaty, Vice President, Rawson

A. M. Burdge, Secretary-Treasurer, Castalia

Ray Fife, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

John McClelland, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – June 15 - 19, Wooster.

Speakers E. L. Bowsher, Director of Education
Walter Kirk, Master, Ohio Grange

Ray Fife resigned to become President of New Mexico State College.

The first School Foundation Program became effective, January 1, 1936. Funds were secured from the new general sales tax and a cigarette tax.

Advisers recommended Future Farmers to sing in an FFA Chorus which sang during the Ohio Farm Bureau Convention.

One hundred fifteen Advisers, Future Farmers and Young Farmers were initiated into the State Grange in preparation for the National Grange Convention which was to be held in Columbus in 1936. This reflected the close cooperation of the two groups.

The State FFA Parliamentary Procedure Contests were initiated with Anna, Kenton and Alexandria participating. The Advisers were Ralph Bender, Paul Pulse and D. B. Robinson, respectively.

President Everett was sent to the AVA Convention in Chicago by the OVATA.

President Everett was asked by State Supervisor Ray Fife to talk individually with legislators and Finance Committee members regarding appropriations for vocational agriculture. Asked to comment on this, Mr. Everett, now retired in Erie County, has written the following:

> "In 1935, we were still in the depression years. State finances were quite low and there was danger of cutting the appropriations for vocational agriculture. In the fall of 1935 while I was still at Bryan, Dr. Fife called me to Columbus and asked me to visit several men in the Legislature, probably men on the Finance Committee. I contacted these men in western Ohio explaining the continuing need for state funds for vocational agriculture. Our budget was maintained and later increased so that more departments could be established. I think I was paid $.04. per mile for my expenses out of vocational agriculture funds."

1936 - 1937

George Krill, President, Ashland

D.B. Robinson, Vice President, Kenton

Paul Hartup, Secretary-Treasurer, Jackson Township

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Lloyd Fidler, Supervisor, Adult Education

CONFERENCE – June 14 - 19, Botany and Zoology Building, OSU.

The George Deen Act stimulated 43 new departments and 29 special instructors.

Virgil Harrison, Canal Winchester, was the first Ohio Future Farmer to win the Regional FFA Public Speaking Contests; Lloyd Fidler, Adviser.

Ohio FFA Advisers recommended members who made up an FFA Choir which sang during the National Grange Convention in Columbus.

Ohio Advisers were recognized nationally as leaders in the organization of Young Farmer Chapters.

The National Youth Administration was created. Later it built the NYA Camp which, in 1944, became FFA Camp Muskingum.

Warren Weiler appointed Ohio FFA Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

Reimbursement for teacher travel on a mileage basis discussed.

1937 - 1938

D. B. Robinson, President, Kenton

O. L. Young, Vice President, West Chester

W. B. Wood, Secretary-Treasurer, New Madison

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – June 13 - 17, Commerce Auditorium, OSU

Thrust: *Young and Adult Farmer Education*
Speakers: Dr. C. H. Lane, U. S. Office of Education
Dr. H. E. Bradford, University of Nebraska – *Skillful Classroom Teaching*
R. F. Stimson, Massachusetts State Supervisor – *Pen, Plow and Personality*

Bill Stiers, Alexandria, was the first Ohio Future Farmer to be named Regional Star Farmer; Paul Pulse, Adviser.

Stanley Tschantz, Dalton, elected National FFA Vice President; Willard Wolf, Adviser.

Kroger and Sears Roebuck initiated FFA scholarships.

John B. McClelland elected President of the OVA.

The Constitution was revised and adopted as recommended by a committee of: O. L. Young (Chairman), O. D. Hoover, Nelson Beem, F. G. Leeper and A. J. Bishop.

1938 - 1939

O. L. Young, President Germantown

John Leonard, Vice President, Van Wert

C. D. Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer, Dola

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – June 12 - 16, Campbell Hall, OSU

Thrust: *Methods of Teaching*
Conservation Banquet, Southern Hotel, Lazarus and Trent Sickles, hosts
Speakers: Dr. Carsie Hammonds, University of Kentucky – *A Basis for Method in Teaching* and *Some Considerations in Effective Teaching*
W. A. Ross, National FFA Secretary – *The Organization and Use of Subject Matter Materials* and *The FFA's Place in a Farmer Training Program*
D. H. C. Barnard – *The Farm Chemurgic Program*

Trent Sickles initiated the FFA Rausenberger Conservation Award sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Rausenberger, Washington C. H., long-time conservationists.

The FFA State Chapter Contest authorized – Winner to the National Contest.

Charles Mehaffey, Prospect, received Regional State Farmer Award; E. R. Smith, Adviser.

Station WLW, Cincinnati, broadcast results of Vocational Agriculture Judging Contests.

Vocational agriculture teachers, through a committee of John Leonard, Paul Pulse, and D. B. Robinson, requested 2½- to 3-week summer school courses of Dean Cunningham and received a favorable response. Later approved.

Vocational agriculture teacher committee of H. B. Vanderpoel, Paul Pulse and C. C. Bowen urged more emphasis on conservation education and that it be a part of our program.

The State Contest in Chapter Procedure was initiated – included opening ceremony, six items of business, secretary's minutes and the closing ceremony.

1939 - 1940

John Leonard, President, Van Wert

O. H. Clary, Vice President, Versailles

Ralph Burdick, Secretary-Treasurer, Fremont

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Howard McClarren, Supervisor

The winning National FFA General Livestock team from Dresden; R. G. McMurray, Instructor.

CONFERENCE – June 11 - 13, Campbell Hall, OSU

Thrust: *Vocational Education Philosophy*

Speakers: Dean C. B. Gentry, University of Connecticut – *A Philosophy of Vocational Education in Agriculture and Some Appropriate Objectives* and *Problem Saving Methods*

Dr. H. H. Davis, College of Education, OSU – *Agricultural Education's Opportunity*

Teachers developed the Integrated Instructional Program based on farming programs, replacing *Farm Crops, Livestock, Engineering* and *Farm Management* sequences.

The first State Chapter Contest was won by Canal Winchester; Ralph Bender, Adviser. Won Silver in the National Chapter Contest.

State Fair booth awards were divided into five classes, phases of the FFA program.

First winners in the State Chapter Business Procedure Contest: Canal Winchester, Wauseon and Xenia. The Advisers were Ralph Bender, D. R. Purkey and P. D. Wickline, respectively.

Dresden won the National FFA General Livestock Contest; R. G. McMurray, Adviser.

All Vocational Agriculture Departments had FFA Chapters for the first time.

C. S. Hutchison elected President of the OVA.

1940 - 1941

C. H. Clary, President, Versailles

Ralph Burdick, Vice President, Fremont

W. E. Stuckey, Secretary-Treasurer, Bascon

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Lloyd Fidler and Floyd Ruble, Supervisors, Out-of-School Youth

CONFERENCE – June 19 - 20, Commerce Auditorium, OSU

Thrust: *Our Agricultural Emergency*

Speakers: Walter Kirk, Master, Ohio State Grange

W. T. Spanton, Chief, Agricultural Education, U. S. Office of Education

Elmer Kruse, Ohio Agriculture Conservation Committee
W. A. Ross, National FFA Executive Secretary

Four hundred and eleven departments 118 on a half-time basis.

- Instruction in half-time departments increased to three years by integrating shop.
- Ralph Harner, North Robinson and Sulfur Springs, a leader in developing this type of program.

The National Defense Training Program was developed for out-of-school youth interested in agriculture.

The National Youth Administration initiated a camp program on Muskingum Conservancy District land – eventually this became the Ohio FFA Camp.

The first FFA Camp Committee of teachers was appointed: Ralph Burdick (Chairman), Ralph Grimshaw, Dale Friday, C. T. Newsom, Marion Wallace and D. L. Martin. This group, with staff, met February 28, 1941, with FFA officers. Trent Sickles and Dr. Finfrock, Dean of the Western Reserve Law School, met with the group to discuss plans for an FFA Camp organization.

1941 - 1942

Ralph Burdick, President, Fremont

W. H. Teegardin, Vice President, Spencerville

C. H. Clary, Secretary-Treasurer, West Jefferson

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff;

C. E. Rhoad, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – June 16 - 19, Campbell Hall, OSU

Thrust: *Vocational Agriculture and the War Effort*
Speakers: A. K. Getman, Chief, Agricujltural Education, New York – *Vocational Agriculture and the War Effort* and *The New Common Sense*
Louis Bromfield, Author and Conservationist
Brooks Burnside, Ohio Chamber of Commerce

Ohio State Fair discontinued, 1942 - 1945, due to Army takeover of buildings.

Farm Labor Training Courses approved in war effort. Vocational agriculture teachers supervised. Food Production War Training Classes organized.

High point in number of departments, 418 with 359 teachers.

The FFA Camp Committee and 100 FFA Advisers met in the Deshler Wallick Hotel on July 18, 1941, to consider FFA Camp plans with Trent Sickles and Bryce Browning. Action was taken to solicit opinions regarding a camp from all Advisers and meet at the NYA Camp on October 4, 1942. A total of 80 Advisers met with the committee, Bryan Sandles, Bryce Browning and Trent Sickles. During this meeting, District Chairmen reported a unanimous favorable reaction to the camp.

Action was taken to proceed with the building of camp facilities but all new building construction was stopped by presidential order. As an alternative, it was decided to remodel a set of farm buildings offered by the District. The Advisers offered to do this work and, during the period from June 10 to July 25, about 110 Advisers worked in six groups to convert the farm buildings into camp facilities. The FFA Camp opened August 2 and continued for three weeks. Chapter contributions of $5.00, $7.50 and $10.00, depending on size, financed remodeling costs.

A committee was named to plan for recognition of teachers by years of service. Several teachers had 20 years of service at this time.

1942 - 1943

One hundred and ten vocational agriculture teachers and staff members transformed this set of farm buildings into an FFA Camp, capacity 115.

W. H. Teegardin, President, Spencerville

J. A. Odegard, Vice President, Defiance

H. B. Rhodes, Secretary-Treasurer, Beallsville

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

Conference – June 15 - 18, Commerce Auditorium, OSU

Thrust: *Feeding the People With Limited Labor and Machinery*

Speakers: G. W. McCuen and R. D. Barden, Agricultural Engineering, OSU – *Operating With a Limited Supply of Farm Machinery*

Dr. R. H. Woods, Kentucky Vocational Education Director – *War Time Education in Agriculture*

Perry Green, Ohio Farm Bureau – *What It Takes to Get the Job Done*

Food for Victory Program, also known as *Good Production War Training* resulted in 8000 farm machines being repaired under the supervision of vocational agricul-

One of the many Food Canning Centers established by vocational agriculture teachers during the war to preserve much-needed food.

tural teachers who cooperated fully in all phases of the war effort. A high percentage taught in two departments when other teachers entered the Armed Services.

The FFA Convention was held in the Southern Hotel, guests of Trent Sickles. Due to the war emergency, the Convention was limited to Chapter delegates.

The First FFA Camp Session opened August 2, 1942, with 225 FFA members and 28 counsellors, participating in the three sessions.

The Camp Board evaluated the first camp, was much impressed and decided to hold a minimum of two camp periods in 1943 if the enrollment justified, and it did.

1943 - 1944

J. A. Odegard, President, Defiance (Resigned from teaching)

Ralph Bender, Vice President, Acting President, Canal Winchester

Paul Pulse, Secretary-Treasurer, Hillsboro

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – July 25 - 28, FFA Camp Muskingum

Thrust: *Problems in the Food Program*
Speakers: C. D. Blubaugh, a highly successful Knox County farmer and a nationally-known conservationist – *How We Rebuilt Our Farm*
Murray Lincoln, Ohio Farm Bureau
James Pearson, U. S. Office of Education -- *Vocational Agriculture in the Central States*

At the start of the year, 307 teachers served 389 departments. Due to the war, the year closed with 376 departments as teachers left for the Armed Services.

FFA members purchased $300,000 of War Bonds, sufficient to purchase a bomber to be named the *Ohio Future Farmer.*

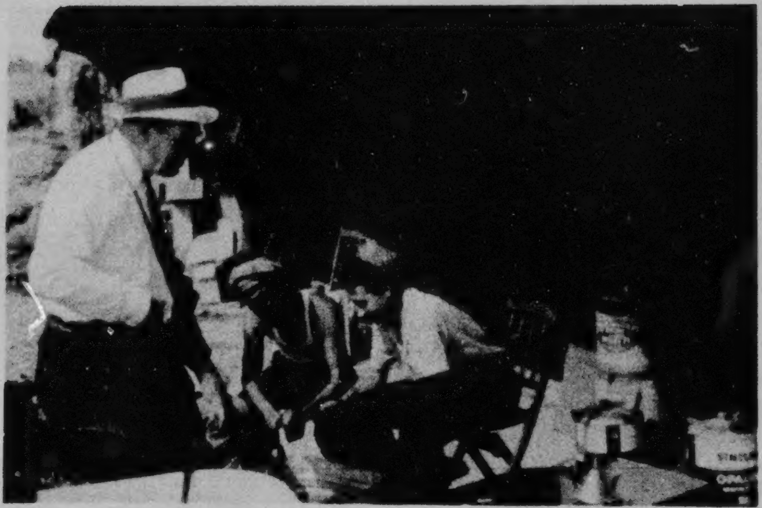
A Service Flag with stars honoring teachers in service was purchased.

Kroger, Sears Roebuck and Firestone gave awards to Future Farmers for war effort.

Seventy-nine Advisers and their Chapters cooperated with the Ohio Safety Council in a survey of farm accidents which attracted national attention.

The Van Wert Chapter won the National FFA Chapter Award. Adviser John Leonard was awarded the Honorary State Farmer Degree.

With the closing of the NYA Camp, the camp facilities were offered to the Ohio Future Farmers by Bryce Browning, Director of the Muskingum Conservancy District.



The late Bryan P. Sandles gives FFA campers instruction in potato peeling – first FFA camp site.

With the closing of the NYA Camp, the camp facilities were offered to the Ohio Future Farmers by Bryce Browning, Director of the Muskingum Conservancy District for an FFA Camp to be used for education in conservation.

Dues –	OVA	$. .50
	AVA	1.00
	OVATA	.50

1944 - 1945

Ralph Bender, President, Canal Winchester

D. R. Purkey, Vice President, Wauseon

R. D. Lemon, Secretary-Treasurer, Hoaglin Jackson

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – held in three sections of the state due to war emergency:
Wooster, June 5 - 7
The Ohio State University, June 11 - 13
Bowling Green High School, June 15 - 16

Theme: *Saving Time*
Speakers: A. Webster Tenney, National FFA Secretary, Washington
John Hodson, Director of Agriculture
Dr. H. M. Byrum, Agricultural Education, Michigan State University

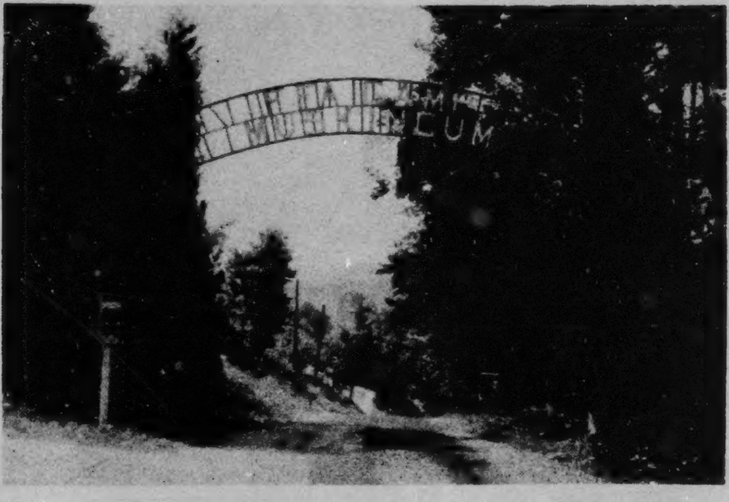
Due to the war, the year started with only 205 teachers in 326 departments with 230 twin departments. The year ended with 200 teachers. The Judging Contests were not held due to the gas and tire rationing.

Eugene Junkin, Jr., Former State President and Vice Presidents Robert Lane and Robert Mallow were killed in action. Messrs. Lane and Mallow were vocational agriculture teachers.

Camp Muskingum was taken over by the FFA from the National Youth Administration which was discontinued June 30, 1943.

WMRN, Marion radio station, initiated an Honor Luncheon to recognize outstanding Advisers and Future Farmers in Marion and six surrounding counties. This was continued for 25 years.

The OVATA dedicated a large Service Flag with 120 stars representing that number of teachers. Seventy-five percent were in the Army, 25% in the Navy. Two gold stars showed that two had made the supreme sacrifice; D. P. Troendly and



Entrance to the "new" FFA Camp, formerly a National Youth Administration camp, taken over in 1944, thanks to the Muskingum Conservancy District.

Robert Mallow.

The first known organized program for the Ohio Vocational Agricultural Association was prepared by President Ralph Bender and his fellow officers and approved by the Association (see Appendix on Page 185).

A revised Constitution for the State Vocational Association for Agriculture was submitted by a committee of teachers: Hobart Sockman (Chairman), E. F. Kuester and Nelson Beem (see Appendix on Page 187).

Ralph Burdick, Fremont, was elected President of the OVA.

Standing committees of the OVATA were initiated.

1945 - 1946

D. R. Purkey, President, Wauseon

R. D. Lemon, Vice President, Hoaglin Jackson

David Colville, Secretary-Treasurer, Jeromesville

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

Gordon Eichhorn, Pleasant Township, Marion County. First Star Farmer of America from Ohio; Milford Schmidt, Adviser.

W. A. Alexander, Bowling Green vocational agriculture teacher supervises the teachers of the local Veterans On-Farm Training Program – one of more than 600 in the state.

CONFERENCE – June 11 - 14, Campbell Hall, OSU

Thrust: *Technical Agriculture in the Post War Years*

Speakers: Dr. W. A. Albrecht, University of Missouri – *Plant Nutrition and Its Implications for Animal Nutrition*

Murray Lincoln, Ohio Farm Bureau – *The International Food Situation*

W. I. Myers, Dean, College of Agriculture, Cornell – *Farmer Problems in the Years Ahead*

Four Institutional On-Farm Training Programs for returning veterans were started at North Fairfield and Lisbon, two of the first. This was expanded to 650 programs under the direction of L. B. Fidler, J. H. Lintner and Floyd Ruble. These were all supervised by local teachers of vocational agriculture.

Two former FFA State officers, Robert Kindler and Lieu Baker, killed in action.

Gordon Eichhorn, Pleasant Township, Marion County, first Ohio Future Farmer to be named Star Farmer of America; Milford Schmidt, Adviser.

The Ohio Farm Safety Contest for Future Farmers initiated.

The State FFA Advisory Committee of Advisers initiated.

1946 - 1947

E. M. Caldwell, President, Frankfort

R. D. Lemon, Vice President, Hoaglin Jackson

C. W. Shaver, Secretary-Treasurer, Gallipolis

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Ray Fife, Agricultural Education

Ralph Bender, Agricultural Education

D. R. Purkey, Supervisor

J. H. Lintner, IOFT Supervisor

CONFERENCE – June 10 - 13, Commerce Building, OSU

Thrust: *Farm Policy and Farm Management*

Speakers: Dr. J. C. Huttah, GLF, Ithaca, New York – *The Ever Normal Refrigerator*

John Strohm, Farm Editor and Author – *Behind the Iron Curtain*

Dr. J. H. Sitterly, OSU Rural Economics – *Rationing Farm Capital*

Ohio State Fair resumed.

Few new departments due to teacher shortage.

Two-day Young Farmer Conference held at OSU. State Young Farmer Council organized.

FFA Victory Convention attended by 240 Future Farmers and Advisers from Ohio. Philip Shober, McCutchenville, elected National FFA Secretary; Harold Moorhead, Adviser.

Ohio FFA Valedictorian's Award announced. FFA dues raised to $.50.

Ralph Bender elected President of the OVA.

1947 - 1948

Glen Boling, President, Wooster

David Colville, Vice President, Jeromesville

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

W. F. Stewart, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Paul Pulse, Supervisor, IOFT

Paul Hartsook, Supervisor, IOFT

D. R. Purkey, Supervisor

CONFERENCE – June 15 - 18, Wooster

Thrust: *Knowing Your Experiment Station*

Speakers: L. L. Rummell, Dean, College of Agriculture – *The Experiment Station Service*

Prof. Walter Dorn, Department of History, OSU – *The American Responsibility in Central Europe Between East and West*

J. R. Strobel, Director, Vocational Education – *Tomorrow's Headlines in Vocational Education*

Ralph Bender became Chairman of the Agricultural Education Department.

National FFA Week set during week of Washington's Birthday.

Ohio Future Farmers and Advisers gain national recognition for Corn Picker Safety Study.

First Ohio FFA Past Officer Dinner sponsored by the Ohio State Council of Retail Merchants, Karl Kahler, former FFA member, host.

The Vocational Agriculture Film Service initiated.

The 12/9 annual salary basis principle for vocational agriculture teachers well established.

The first four-year vocational agriculture curriculum developed by Ohio teachers and staff adopted.

1948 - 1949

David Colville, President, Jeromesville

Daryl Sharp, Vice President, Minster

C. R. Fridline, Secretary-Treasurer, Mt. Vernon

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Ralph Woodin, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – June 14 - 17, University Hall, OSU

Thrust: *Knowing Our Equipment*

Speakers: H. C. Fetterolf, Supervisor, Pennsylvania – *Agricultural Education in Korea*

John Davis, Cleveland *Plain Dealer* Farm Editor – *The Road to Good Public Relations*

Raymond Pifer, Department of Animal Husbandry, OSU – *Pork Profits by the Potful* and *When They See It – They Get It*

Ralph Howard awarded the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

NVATA organized December 2, 1948 – Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Ohio teachers present: Glen Boling, David Colville, and C. R. Fridline.

Reimbursement to departments cut from 50% to 41% of teachers' salaries – the first variation from the 50% principle.

Vocational agriculture teachers given credit for advancing the adoption of soil conservation practices by 10 years.

Ralph Harner elected President of the OVA.

1949 - 1950

Daryl Sharp, President, Minster

C. R. Fridline, Vice President, Mt. Vernon

John Borton, Secretary-Treasurer, Upper Sandusky

Ralph Howard, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Willard Wolf, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – June 13 - 16, University Hall, OSU

Thrust: *Trends in Agricultural Policy and Farm Management*
Recognition Banquet: Beechwold Inn, June 1[illegible]
Speakers: J. I. Falconer, Agricultural Economics Department, OSU – *Trends in Agricultural Policy*

Walter Bluck, Ohio Council of Cooperatives – *Educational Opportunities in Teaching Cooperation*

R. C. Pebworth, Sears Foundation – *Success in Public Relations*

Teacher Tenure Roll initiated with Keys and Certificates awarded up to 25 years.

Vocational agriculture teacher corn picker safety program credited with 56% decrease in corn picker accidents.

Discussion held on need for change in curriculum to meet need for education for jobs in agricultural business – teachers felt local need and urged it.

Glenn Lackey, Berling Township, Delaware County, elected National FFA Vice President; C. R. Fridline, Adviser.

William Kirkpatrick, Westerville, Ohio's first to win the National FFA Farm Mechanics Award; Willard Wolf, Adviser.

Daryl Sharp elected Regional NVATA Alternate Vice President for three years and was very influential in the development of the organization.

Ralph Howard elected to the National FFA Board of Directors for a second time.

Nearly all teachers were members of the Ohio Education Association which became a power in school legislation.

New classes at the State Fair included FFA Queen, hay, welding and photography.

John Leonard, Van Wert Adviser, and P. D. Wickline, Xenia Adviser, elected Honorary American Farmers.

1950 - 1951

C. R. Fridline, President, Mt. Vernon

Leon Boucher, Vice President, Hilliard

Burdette Hunter, Secretary-Treasurer, LaRue

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

James Dougan, Supervisor

Austin Ritchie, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – June 12 - 15, University Hall, OSU

Thrust: *Teaching Agricultural Engineering*

Recognition Dinner: Beechwold Inn; Speaker, Louis Bromfield, Author and Conservationist

Speakers: R. D. Barden, Agricultural Engineering, OSU – *What Is New in Farm Machinery*

Jonathan Foreman, M. D. – *Let's Eat as Well as We Feed Our Livestock*

D. R. Stanfield, Farm Bureau – *Legislation and Public Affairs*

Ralph Howard appointed Director of Vocational Education.

Warren Weiler appointed State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture.

A. C. Kennedy, Agricultural Education, Farm Mechanics, retired.

D. R. Purkey named FFA Executive Secretary-Treasurer and James Dougan, Camp Director.

The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Advisory Committee established.

Dallas High, Ohio City, elected National FFA Vice President; Henry Prior, Adviser.

Rolland Turnow, Clay, named Regional Star Farmer; Paul Hartsook, Adviser.

Jess Smith, President, NVATA, Wisconsin, spoke to the teachers – *Working Together* and *A Challenging Job.*

W. F. Stewart awarded the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

Reimbursement to local departments cut to 37%.

The Ohio Tractor Company, D. T. Hayward, President, initiated plan to provide one FFA Camp Scholarship to every Ohio FFA Chapter.

The Young Farmer Award Program initiated – awards for Program, Corn Growing, Outstanding Young Farmer Wife, Community Service, etc.

The Teaching Aids Committee was added to the OVATA Standing Committees.

1951 - 1952

Leon Boucher, President, Hilliard

Leslie Crabbe, Vice President, Mowrystown

Paul Mechling, Secretary-Treasurer, Lancaster

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

A. W. Short, Conservation Supervisor

Carlton Johnson, Agricultural Education, Mechanicsburg

CONFERENCE – June 10 - 12, Ohio Experiment Station, Wooster

Thrust: *Knowing Our Agricultural Experiment Station*
Recognition Dinner: Smithville Inn; guests of Sears Foundation, R. C. Pebworth, host.
Speakers: W. F. Krauss, OAES – *The Future of Ohio Agriculture*
G. A. Hummon, OAES – *Using the Experiment Station*
James Wallace, Farm Manager, Iowa State University – *The Human Side of Farming*

An Ohio Manual of Operation including Policies and Procedures of vocational agriculture in Ohio was developed in cooperation with Ohio teachers.

Ralph Bender elected to the AVA Advisory Committee for a two-year term.

The Teacher Public Relations Committee established.

John Greeneisen, Marysville, the first Ohio Future Farmer to win the National FFA Public Speaking Contest; Jim McKitrick, Adviser.

Elton Parks, Westerville, won the FFA National Farm Mechanics Award, the second Westerville Future Farmer to win this award in three years.

C. R. Fridline elected President of the OVA.

Ralph Woodin became Executive Secretary of the OVA serving until 1965.

An OVATA Public Relations Committee was established and the first meeting held was in cooperation with Bob Pebworth, Sears Foundation. Some activities:

- Fill-in news articles, news releases, vocational agriculture Speakers Bureau and use of a clipping service.
- Arranged Public Relations Training sessions with County Public Relations Chairmen.

1952 - 1953

Leslie Crabbe, President, Mowrystown

Dallas Cornett, Vice President, Pleasant Township

Howard Nowels, Secretary-Treasurer Logan

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Leonard Morse, Supervisor, Veterinarian Training

CONFERENCE – June 16 - 19, University Hall, OSU

Thrust: *Our 35th Anniversary*
Recognition Dinner: Beechwold Inn; Guests of Sears Foundation
Speakers: H. N. Stevens, Goodrich Tire and Rubber Company – *What Can We Expect*
Elton Kile, Legislator
John Sims, Ohio Farm Bureau

First half-time in school – half-time adult programs set up in five schools.

Xenia and Van Wert won National Gold Emblem Awards; P. D. Wickline and John Leonard, Advisers.

Wayne Vogel, McCuthenville, named Star Farmer of America; Harold Moorhead, Adviser.

Jack Nowels, Loudonville, Adviser, elected Honorary American Farmer.

President Eisenhour addressed National FFA Convention.

FFA $.03 commemorative stamp authorized.

First National Young Farmer Leadership Conference held in Kansas City, October 17.

Many FFA Advisers and local officers invited Congressmen to FFA banquets and adult classes as a part of the OVA Legislative Program.

1953 - 1954

Dallas Cornett, President, Pleasant Township

Paul Mechling, Vice President, Lancaster

Jack Nowels, Secretary-Treasurer, Loudonville

A. J. Bishop, Devotions, Morral

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – June 15 - 18, Hagerty Hall, OSU

Thrust: *A Look at Our Professional Organizations*
Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Roebuck
Speakers: Dr. Mervin Smith, Agricultural Economics, OSU – *Teaching the Trends in Agricultural Policy*
D. T. Hayward, President, Ohio Tractor Company – *What Business Expects From Vocational Agriculture*
D. R. Stanfield, Ohio Farm Bureau

Vocational Agriculture Land Judging Contests started. First winner, Canal Winchester; Gilbert Guiler, Adviser.

Reimbursement for out-of-school programs raised from $5.00 to $7.00 per session. Extra reimbursement for larger in-school and adult classes approved.

Looseleaf enterprise project book developed with teacher committee.

Dennis O'Keefe, Westerville, won National FFA Speaking Contests. Second National winner from Ohio in three years; Glenn Griffith, Adviser.

Harold Moorhead, Sycamore; Ralph Foltz, Bremen; and George Krill, Ashland awarded Honorary American Farmer Degrees.

1954 - 1955

Paul Mechling, President, Lancaster

Clyde Beougher, Vice President, Delaware

Ward Lindemuth, Secretary, Germantown

Wenrich Stuckey, Treasurer, Green Springs

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Lowery Davis, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – June 13 - 17, Wooster and Nela Park

Thrust: *Our Profession Is What We Make It*
Recognition Dinner: Smithville Inn; guests of Sears Foundation
Speakers: Mark Nichols, State Director, Utah – *How Big Is Your Paycheck*
W. L. Krauss, OAES Director – *Knowing Your Experiment Station*

First Conference program to show a report of NVATA activities.

Sears Roebuck initiated the 30-year Gold Watch Award.

Survey showed that one-third of Ohio farm boys do not have access to vocational agriculture.

FFA celebrated 25th Anniversary.

Ohio initiated a new program in cooperation with CROP and sent three Jersey heifers and two Jersey bulls to Lebanon.

Warren Weiler elected to the National FFA Board of Directors and Foundation Board of Trustees.

The Young Farmer Emblem was adopted.

Many departments were improved through the use of special rehabilitation funds.

1955 - 1956

Clyde Beougher, President, Delaware

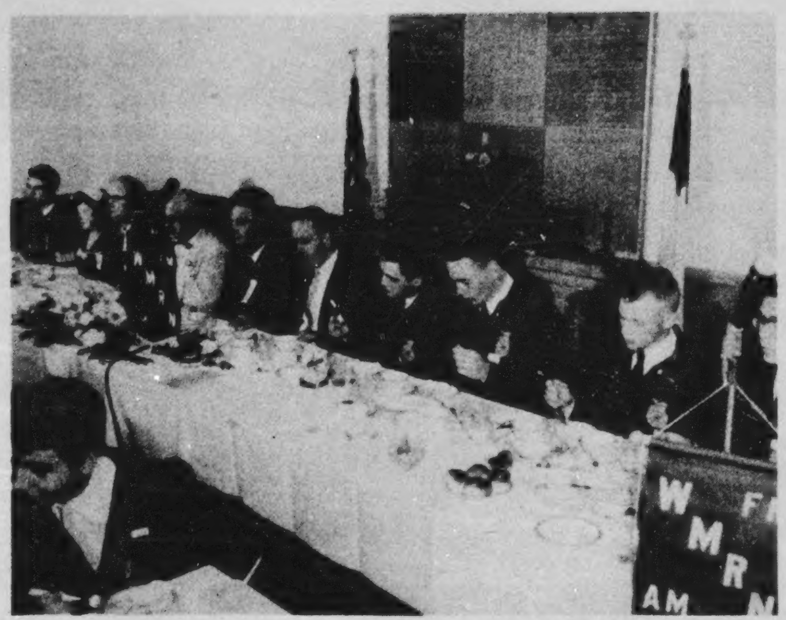
Jack Nowels, Vice President, Loudonville

Archie Bishop, Secretary, Morral

Henry Horstman, Treasurer, Anna

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU



WMRN Marion initiated the FFA Honor Luncheon and Broadcast in 1945 and continued it for 25 years. Gov. Frank Lausche addressed this 1956 event.

CONFERENCE – June 12 - 15, Junior Fair Building

Thrust: *Program Planning*

Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation

Speakers: Dr. Walter Krill, Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine, OSU – *Veterinarians and Teachers Must Work Together*

Dr. Kenneth McFarland, General Motors – *The "U" in Agriculture*

Dr. Webster Tenney, U. S. Office of Education – *Good Programs Just Don't Happen* and *What a Future Farmer Has a Right to Expect from His Adviser.*

New State School Foundation Approved – some provisions for vocational agriculture:

- Fractional and multiple teacher programs authorized
- More federal funds for travel, adult classes, in-service training, etc.
- Vocational units approved in addition to other instructional units

John Borton received the Honorary American Farmer Degree.
Dale Ring, Wooster, elected National FFA Vice President; Glen Boling, Adviser.

Paul Mechling, Lancaster, elected NVATA Vice President for three years.

On 50% of Ohio School Districts provided any vocational education:

- 12% of students were enrolled in vocational education
- 88% of students were enrolled in college preparatory or general courses

1956 - 1957

Jack Nowels, President, Loudonville

Welch Barnett, Vice President, Carrollton

J. J. Kreglow, Secretary, Ada

Ray Butt, Treasurer, Seaman

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Leslie Crabbe, Supervisor

Richard Wilson, Agricultural Education

William Knight, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – June 11 - 14, Junior Fair Building

Theme: *Serving My Community*
Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation
Speakers: L. D. Shuter, STRS, Survivor Benefits, Disability and Retirement Provisions for Ohio Teachers
Warren Guthrie, Western Reserve University – *But Is Anyone Listening?*
Herb Schaller, Editor, *Better Farming Methods – Vocational Agriculture As I See It*
Bob Howey, Illinois, Past President, NVATA – *Proud of Our Profession*

Thirty-two teachers enrolled in Program Planning Workshops conducted by A. W. Tenney, U. S. Office of Education and Ralph Woodin

One hundred Young Farmers and their wives held first week-end program at FFA Camp.

Ohio FFA Foundation organized; Jack Nowels, Vice President.

In-Service Workshop Program for teachers expanded as a result of study.

First Area Vocational School established at Piketon.

First issue of the *Ohio Young Farmer* published November 1, 1956.

A. Webster Tenney appointed Chief, Agricultural Education, U. S. Office of Education and Paul Gray appointed National FFA Executive Secretary.

Frazeysburg FFA Chapter was the first Ohio Chapter to win the National Flying Farmers Award; Adviser, Harold Loughrie.

Paul Mechling elected President of the OVA.

1957 - 1958

Glenn Gallaway, President, Archbold

John Starling, Vice President, Shawnee

Paul Hanes, Secretary, Radnor

Glen Griffith, Treasurer, Westerville

Sidney Fadley, Devotions

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Herbert Brum, Supervisor

Gilbert Guiler, Agriculture Education

Chauncey Smith, In-Service Workshops

CONFERENCE – June 16 - 18, Jr. Fair Building

Theme: *Improved Instruction in Vocational Agriculture*
Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation; John Austin, host.
Speakers: Dr. W. J. Tyznik, Animal Science, OSU – *Recent Advances in Livestock Feeding*
Dr. R. M. Montgomery, Alabama Polytechnic – *The Portrait of a Teacher*
Dr. E. E. Holt, State Superintendent of Public Instruction – *The Place of Vocational Agriculture in Our School System*

First appearance of the quartet led by Jack Nowels.

Vocational Agriculture Teachers' Creed given teachers to be framed and displayed.

A new five-year state and district program was adopted by the teachers through the Executive Committee.

Harry Pontious, Farm Safety Leader; Archie Bishop, Morral; and Warren Weiler, received the Honorary American Farmer Degrees.

John Foltz, Vocational Agriculture Instructor and formerly FFA State President, Bremen, was appointed to the National Future Farmer Staff.

Average Teacher's salary – $5750. Dues: OVA, $2.00; AVA, $3.00; and OVATA, $2.00. James Wall named NVATA Executive Secretary and the Summer Leadership Conferences initiated. Ohio teachers have participated regularly.

Action was taken for each district to furnish heifers for Turkey.

Recommendations made by vocational agriculture teachers in 1958 regarding vocational agriculture in 1965:

- Make vocational agriculture coeducational
- More multiple teacher departments
- Supervisors live within the area they serve
- Stronger Young Farmer and YFA Programs
- Teachers should be more specialized
- Shift emphasis on Farm Management to the Young and Adult Farmer Programs
- Each department have an advisory committee
- More emphasis on science in vocational agriculture
- Reduce the conference program to three days

1958 - 1959

John Starling, President, Shawnee

Paul Eckler, Vice President, Milan

John Fraker, Secretary, Kenton

Joe Kersey, Treasurer, Lebanon

R. G. McMurray, Chaplain, Jefferson

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

David Hanselman, Conservation Supervisor

CONFERENCE – July 15 - 17, Youth Center

Theme: *Improving On-Farm Instruction*
Recognition Dinner: Youth Center; guests of Sears Foundation
Speakers: Dr. Clarence Bundy, Teacher Education, Iowa State University – *Opportunity in On-Farm Teaching in 1960*
Cowboys Starling and Purkey – *Our Vacation in Turkey*
Tom Christen, Standard Oil – *Scholarships for Professional Improvement*

Glen Boling, Wooster; Ralph Harner, Green County; and Lewis Rader, Dunkirk; awarded American Farmer Degrees.

The State Plan for vocational agriculture in Ohio, approved in Washington, provided for 12 months of employment for teachers, four weeks of vacation and eight 45-minute periods.

Teachers' salaries averaged $6000. Eighty-six-and-a-half percent of the teachers offered Adult and/or Young Farmer Instruction.

The Ohio FFA Foundation was initiated.

The OVATA Teacher Recruitment luncheon during the FFA Convention initiated.

Ohio FFA sent 39 heifers and two bulls to Turkey via Starling and Purkey.

1959 - 1960

Paul Eckler, President, Milan

John Fraker, Vice President, Kenton

Lawton McClintock, Secretary, Pleasand Township

John Sherrick, Treasurer, Savannah

R. G. McMurray, Chaplain, Jefferson

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – June 13 - 15, Youth Center

Theme: *Adjusting Our Teaching Program to Meet Changes in Agriculture and Education*

Recognition Dinner: Youth Center; guests of Sears Foundation and John Austin

Speakers: Dr. Carl Albrecht, Michigan State – *Teaching Methods*
Harold Crone, Ohio Farm Bureau – *The Value of a Vocational Agriculture Background*
Carl Humphrey, Supervisor, Missouri – *Vocational Agriculture in Other States*
George Buchannan, NVATA Vice President, Kentucky – *Our Responsibility in Making Changes*

OVATA recognition to be based on years of teaching and membership in the OVATA.

Ohio Future Farmers and Advisers sent 120 Duroc gilts to Haiti; Gilbert Guiler in charge.

Jerome Donovan, Delaware, elected National FFA Vice President; Clyde Beougher, Adviser.

Franklin Miller, Groveport, awarded the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

Eighty-nine-and-a-half percent of the teachers offered Adult and/or Young Farmer Programs.

First group of eight teacher delegates to the AVA financed 50% by OVATA.

John Fraker volunteered to head up Ohio Courtesy Corps Committee during the National FFA Convention.

1960 - 1961

John Fraker, President, Kenton

J. J. Kreglow, Vice President, Ada

Carl Nagy, Secretary, Jeromesville

Herbert Chamberlain, Treasurer, Jackson

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Leon Boucher, Agricultural Education

Robert Taylor, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – July 11 - 14, Agricultural Administration Building

Theme: *Planning for Classroom Teaching*
Recognition Dinner: Youth Center; guests of Sears Foundation
Speakers: Ralph Howard, Vocational Direction – *We Must Work Together*
Kenneth McFarland, General Motors
A. D. McRill, Superintendent and former vocational agriculture teacher – *Vocational Agriculture From the Superintendent's Point of View*

Douglas Johnson attended Regional IV Conference at Gilbertsville, Kentucky.

Six elected teachers worked with Mr. Brum on Teaching Aids.

Teachers and staff developed a manual on *Farm Placement for Work Experience.*

First Cleveland program on Greenhouse Management; Vincent Feck, Adviser.

Ray Diley, West Milton, awarded American Farmer Degree.

Public Relations Committee sponsored four public relations conferences. Fifty-six teachers in.

Ohio Future Farmers send chicks to Lebanon.

Curriculum Planning Sheets and Daily Teaching Guides developed as an outcome of a study on the *Use of Vocational Agriculture Teacher Time* during summer months by Gilbert Guiler.

John Starling elected President of the OVA.

1961 - 1962

J. J. Kreglow, President, Ada

Richard Hummel, Vice President, Spencerville

Don Waliser, Secretary, Lancaster

Fred Mengert, Treasurer, Arlington

R. G. McMurray, Chaplain, Jefferson

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – July 11 - 13, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *Utilizing Our Resources in Teaching*
Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation and John Austin
Speakers: Dr. Roy Kottman, Dean, College of Agriculture, OSU – *Working Together*
Dr. J. Benton Jones, OAES – *Using Community Resources*
E. O. Bolender, retiring Supervisor – *As I See It After 45 Years*

E. O. Bolender retired after 45 years. In charge of Judging Contests 27 years.

Clyde Beougher, Delaware, received Honorary American Farmer Degree.

Eight pilot programs in agricultural business initiated.

Twenty-one Ohio teachers participated in a workshop to prepare guidelines for programs to develop student abilities in agricultural vocations other than farming. Willard Wolf, D. R. Purkey and Neville Hunsicker, U. S. Office of Education, conducted the workshop.

First Cleveland horticulture students attended FFA Camp.

1962 - 1963

Richard Hummel, President, Spencerville

Don Waliser, Vice President, Lancaster

Lowell Hedges, Secretary, Elgin

Fred Mengert, Treasurer, Arlington

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

John Starling, Supervisor

Paul Hanes, Chaplain, Buckeye Valley	Earl Kantner, Supervisor
	Harlan Ridenour, Supervisor

CONFERENCE – July 29 - 31, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *Recognizing Our Frontiers*

Recognition Dinner: King's Inn; guests of Sears Foundation

Speakers: Carl C. Byers, General Motors – *What's Showing Through Your Window?*

A. W. Tenney, U. S. Office of Education – *Vocational Agriculture in the Years Ahead*

Walter Bomeli, NVATA Vice President, Michigan – *Trends in Vocational Agriculture*

Ralph Howard retired as the Director of Vocational Education. Mr. Howard assisted in the organization of the Ohio FFA, served as its first Adviser and Executive Secretary and for 14 years served as State Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture in Ohio.

Lloyd Fidler retired as a state staff members. Mr. Fidler served as Secretary-Treasurer of the OVATA in 1928 and President in 1929.

John Fraker and E. O. Bolender awarded Honorary American Farmer Degrees.

John Starling assumed charge of Judging Contests.

Earl Kantner appointed FFA Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

First two-year Technical Program started at Springfield; H. B. Drake, Director.

Agricultural Education Program for Disadvantaged Youth initiated at Warren; Arthur Walkton, Instructor. Proved highly successful.

Instructional Materials Laboratory established; Harlan Ridenour, Director.

Need for broadening programs for off-farm vocations recognized. Conservation areas considered. FFA Horticultural Awards initiated.

Area vocational schools discussed.

Land laboratories and school farms considered for work experience.

FFA Marketing Award revised to make it more educational. Won by Caldwell; Joe Parrish, Adviser.

Ralph Woodin appointed editor of the *Agricultural Education Magazine*, served untill 1965.

Lay Committee to be used in the selection of American Farmers.

1963 - 1964

Don Waliser, President, Lancaster

Rodger Hiller, Vice President, Ashland

Jerry Vogt, Secretary, Coldwater

Fred Mengert, Treasurer, Ashland

Paul Hanes, Chaplain, Buckeye Valley

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Floyd McCormick, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE : July 13 - 15, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *Meeting New Opportunities and Demands for Vocational Agriculture*
Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests Sears Foundation, Don Cudworth, host
Speakers; W. C. Montgomery, Supervisor, Kentucky – *What Are the New Demands on Vocational Agriculture?*
Duane Neilson, U. S. Office of Education
Warren Guthrie, Standard Oil, Ohio

The National Center for Agricultural Supervisors' Training was established at Ohio State; Robert Taylor, Director. Later this was changed to the National Center for Vocational and Technical Education.

The Vocational Act of 1963 authorized the preparation for employment in off-farm agricultural occupations.

Herbert Brum conducted a *Study of Off-Farm Agricultural Occupations.* The results have been used as a basis for agricultural occupations training in Ohio.

"Proven Sire" Certificates approved.

D. R. Purkey and Richard Hummel, Spencerville, awarded Honorary American Farmer Degrees.

Paul Schlotterbeck, Hamerl Adviser, was presented with a gold watch by the Bulova Watch Company for his efforts in saving the life of one of his FFA members.

1964 - 1965

Rodger Hiller, President, Ashland

Ray Diley, Vice President, Milton Union

R. S. Beard, Secretary, Mt. Gilead

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

Ron Ramey, Treasurer, Felicity Franklin

A. H. Hummell, Chaplain, Lakeland

CONFERENCE – July 12 - 14, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *Implementing Our New Concept of Vocational Agriculture*
Recognition Banquet: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation
Speakers: J. Mervin Smith, Agricultural Economics, OSU – *A Citation*
C. Neilson Griffith, Landmark – *The Time Is Now, Are You Ready?*
H. B. Drake, Agricultural Technical School, Springfield

The OVATA Quartet dubbed the OVATA Beetles.

James Bratton, Mowrystown, awarded Honorary Farmer Degree.

Rees Hackenbracht was awarded the Pfizer Poultry Award.

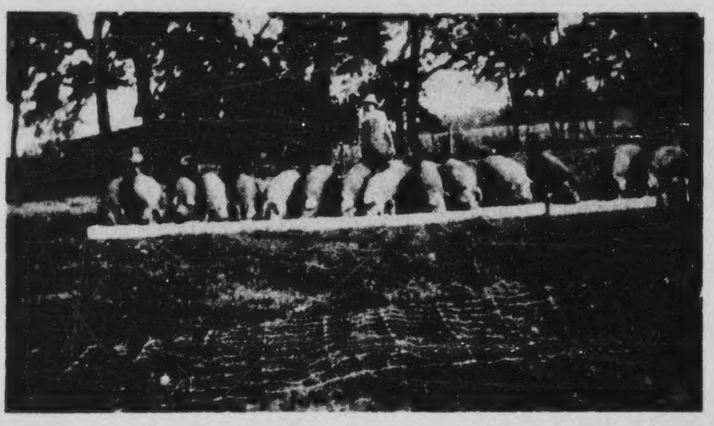
Teachers were reimbursed for their expenses to the Annual Conference for the first time.

James Bratton, Mowrystown; Paul Hanes, Radnor; and Howard Kiser, Leesburg; awarded American Farmer Degrees.

FFA Agribusiness Award initiated.

Girl membership in the FFA was given official approval but not for the National Contests.

Plans developed for implementing provisions of the Vocational Act of 1963.



Rodger Hiller, 1930 Ashland FFA member and OVATA President in 1964, and his ton litter of 15 pigs that weighed 3766 pounds in 180 days. .

1965 - 1966

Ray Diley, President, Milton Union

Franklin Miller, Vice President, Groveport

David Folk, Secretary, New Lexington

Ron Ramey, Treasurer, Felicity Franklin

A. H. Hummell, Chaplain, Garaway

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Richard Hummel, Supervisor

James Hensel, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – July 11 - 13, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *A Climate of Excellence*
Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation
Speakers: John Furbay, General Motors - *The Four Dreams of Man*
Dr. Martin Essex, State Superintendent of Public Instruction
Douglas Stanfield, Ohio Farm Bureau – *Working Together for a Total Agricultural Situation*

Gerald Page, NVATA Vice President, Missouri, represented the NVATA.

Jim Stitzlein, Loudonville, elected National FFA Vice President; Jack Nowels, Adviser.

Herbert Brum appointed Supervisor of Disadvantaged Youth, Vocational Education Division. In 1970, Mr. Brum became Director of Finance, State Department of Education.

D. R. Purkey became Supervisor of Building Construction, Division of Vocational Education.

Twelve agribusiness programs initiated by Ohio teachers.

1966 - 1967

Franklin Miller, President, Madison Rural

L. B. Smith, Vice President, Delphos

William Ruth, Secretary, Mentor

Ron Ramey, Treasurer, Lancaster

A. H. Hummell, Chaplain, Garaway

Warren Weiler, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

John Watkins, Supervisor

CONFERENCE – July 10 - 12, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *More Effective Vocational Agricultural Through Improved Communication*

Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation; John Taylor, host

Speakers; Dr. Edgar Taylor, College of Education, OSU – *Promising Approaches in Communications*
Everett Lindsay, Gulf Oil – *Human Motivation Engineering*
Jerry Sanders, Division of Instructional Materials, State Department of Education – *Talk Demonstration*

James Dougan became Supervisor of Vocational Agriculture upon the retirement of Warren Weiler.

Agricultural business teachers participate in 13-day internship programs to get business experience.

Keaton Vandemark, Elida, elected National FFA Vice President; George Ropp, Adviser.

The OVATA emblem developed and presented to the teachers by Ron Foreman.

Floyd Ruble awarded the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

An OVATA committee was appointed to develop a plan whereby outstanding teachers might be selected and properly recognized.

A Conservation Training program was initiated in the Muskingum County JVS.

1967 - 1968

Lloyd Smith, President, Delphos

Adrian Roberts, Vice President, East Clinton

Odell Miller, Secretary, Marysville

Robert Phillips, Treasurer, Madison South

Horace Hummell, Chaplain, Garaway

James Dougan, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Welch Barnett, Supervisor

J. Robert Warmbrod, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – July 8 - 10, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *Planning for Effective Teaching*

Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation; Glen Spoerl, host

Speakers: George Greenleaf, Ohio Grain, Feed and Fertilizer Association – *Developing Educational Leadership for Effective Teaching*
Dr. Carl Winters, General Motors – *Education for Life*
Dr. David Boyne, Agricultural Economics, OSU – *Future Directions of Agriculture in Ohio*

Glen McDowell, NVATA Vice President, Kentucky, brought greetings from the NVATA.

OVATA added a Teacher Recruitments Committee as a Standing Committee. Teachers of Teachers were first recognized as a part of the recruitment effort.

AVA held in Cleveland; OVATA members hosted reception.

The Outstanding Teacher Award was initiated through a plan developed and implemented by a Teacher Committee. The first award winners were: Glen R. Boling, Wooster; P. D. Wickline, Xenia; Ralph Sawyer, Marietta; Ralph Brooks, Columbus Grove; and Howard Nowels, Fremont. (A complete list is included in the Appendix on Page 182.)

The Vocational Agriculture Advisory Committee was reorganized to include representatives from the major agricultural industries, the OVATA, YFA and FFA.

Roger Phelps, Marysville, won the National FFA Agribusiness Award; Odell Miller, Adviser.

Ralph Bender elected President of the Agricultural Division, AVA and AVA Vice President.

Local supervisors for agricultural education programs approved in 21 local schools.

Ralph Bender awarded Honorary American Farmer Degree.

1968 - 1969

Adrian Roberts, President, E. Clinton

Odell Miller, Vice President, Marysville

George Hyatt, Secretary, Keystone

Robert Phillips, Treasurer, Madison South

John Wilson, Chaplain, Four County JVS

James Dougan, Supervisor

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

John Davis, Supervisor

CONFERENCE – July 7 - 9, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *Managing Resources for Effective Teaching*

Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation

Speakers: Russell Lee, former vocational agriculture teacher, now Superintendent, Butler County Schools – *Using People in an Effective Program of Vocational Agriculture*

Neilson Griffith, Landmark – *Techniques for Managing Resources*

Robert Teater, Associate Dean, College of Agriculture – *Using Cooperative Extension, the College and Research Resources to Strengthen Programs of Vocational Agriculture*

A new brochure was produced for guidance counsellors – *A New Look in Vocational Agriculture.*

A Leadership-Citizenship Day was held in February, attended by 91 Legislators and 250 vocational agriculture teachers, FFA members and guests.

Bill Smich, Cleveland West Technical Horticulture student was named Star Farmer of Ohio.

The *Ohio Future Farmer* was changed to the *Ohio FFA News* in a continuing effort to serve all taxonomy program areas.

"50-40 Year" celebrated, 50 years vocational agriculture, 40 years FFA.

James Dougan elected to the National FFA Board of Directors and the FFA Foundation Board of Trustees.

A State Advisory Committee was implemented for all major instructional areas, this included Post Secondary Vocational Agriculture.

An Agricultural Education Alumni Association was organized. It prepared and distributed an abridged edition of the Agricultural Education History and Directory to all Agricultural Education Alumni.

Exchange of delegates between OVATA and Michigan VATA Conferences approved.

"Live" FFA demonstrations substituted for "still" demonstrations at State Fair.

Roger Phelps, Marysville, was the first Ohio FFA member to be awarded the Star Agribusinessman Degree; Odell Miller, Adviser.

Lloyd Smith named as Alternate NVATA Vice President for Region IV.

1969 - 1970

Odell Miller, President, Marysville James Dougan, Supervisor

Warren Reed, Vice President, Crestview

Jack Devitt, Secretary, Ottoville

Robert Phillips, Treasurer, Madison South

John Wilson, Chaplain, Four County JVS

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – July 8 - 10, Agricultural Administration Building, OSU

Theme: *The Role of the Vocational Agriculture Teacher in the 70's*
Recognition Dinner: Ohio Union; guests of Sears Foundation
Speakers: William Hull, Center for Vocational and Technical Education – *Performance Expectations for Vocational Agriculture Graduates*
Jack Frymier, College of Education, OSU – *What Motivates Students?*
Gene Tapa[illegible]an, President, Ohio FFA – *The FFA as a Part of the Instructional Program*

The number of vocational agriculture teaching positions increased to 457 with 16,177 students.

Kenneth Parker, Cleveland West Tech Adviser and two girl FFA members served on a national committee to determine the official FFA dress for girl members.

The first OVATA Teacher Directory, with pictures, published.

James Dougan elected chairman of the first National FFA Finance Committee.

The National FFA Farm Mechanics Award was won by Sheldon Hull of Talawanda; Jay Benham, Adviser.

Jay Benham, Oxford, was awarded the NVATA Outstanding Young Teacher Award.

The OVATA Constitution was revised.

The Farm Business Planning and Analysis Program enrolled 760 farmers with five full-time, five part-time and 53 other teachers participating.

Odell Miller elected NVATA Region IV Vice President.

J. H. Lintner, Westerville, awarded Honorary American Farmer Degree.

1970 - 1971

Warren Reed, President, Crestview

James Dougan, Assistant Director, Vocational Education

Robert Phillips, Vice President, Madison South

Norville Freymuth, Secretary, Wapakoneta

Frank Miller, Treasurer, Firelands

Donald Sweet, Chaplain, Mechanicsburg

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agriculture Education, OSU

New Staff:

John Morgan, Supervisor

CONFERENCE – July 12 - 14, Scot's Inn

Theme: *Management Is the Key to the Future*
Recognition Dinner: Scot's Inn
Speakers: C. William Swank, Executive Vice President, Ohio Farm Bureau – *Turned-On Management*
Gene R. Abercrombe, Director of Agriculture – *The Role of Agriculture in the 70's*
Earl Butz, Vice President, Purdue University, Courtesy of General Motors

Curricula developed in cooperation with other OSU departments to assist teachers in specialized areas such as horticulture, agricultural business, agricultural equipment, natural resources, etc.

FFA blazers were introduced as optional dress.

Gary Bauer, Sunbury, was awarded the NVATA Outstanding Young Teacher Award; Ralph Young, Holgate.

Ralph Young, Holgate, was awarded the Honorary American Farmer Degree.

Debbie Carey, Elgin, was elected Queen of the American Royal at Kansas City; Larry Parrish and Tom Ackerman, Advisers.

Dennis Sargent, Bradford, was elected National FFA Secretary; Jim Beckley, Adviser.

Jay Benham, Talawanda FFA Adviser, was selected as the first Secretary of the National FFA Alumni Association.

The OVATA Constitution was revised.

The Farm Business Planning and Analysis Program enrolled 760 farmers with five full-time, five part-time and 53 other teachers participating.

The OVATA Directory was developed with pictures and 1000 copies were distributed. This was made possible through the cooperation of Landmark, Inc., Ohio REA Cooperatives, Producers' Livestock Association, The Ohio Farmers of

Fostoria, O. M. Scott and Sons, and the Ohio Grain Company, Milford Center.

Darrell Parks resigned as Assistant Supervisor to become Assistant Director of Vocational Education. Later he was selected by Dr. Martin Essex, State Superintendent of Public Instruction as Director of Planning and Evaluation.

1971 - 1972

Robert Phillips, President, Madison South

Joe Parrish, Vice President, Caldwell

Dwain Sayre, Secretary, Mohawk

Richard Mills, Treasurer, Triway

Donald Sweet, Chaplain, Mechanicsburg

James Dougan, Assistant Director, Vocational Education

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – July 10 - 12, Scot's Inn

Theme: *My Performance, A Measure of Accountability*
Recognition Dinner: Scot's Inn
Speakers: Donald Leibelt, Green Bay Wisconsin – *The FFA, Relevant – Flexible*
Fr. Richard Connelly, Chaplain, Cleveland Browns and Cincinnati Bengals – *Teaching . . . An Opportunity to Serve*
Dennis Sargent, National FFA Alumni Secretary – *Design for the Future*

Donald Dilgard, Ashland, awarded the NVATA Outstanding Teacher Award.

Vocational agriculture enrollments reached 19,470, averaging 41.8 per teachers.

An OVATA committee of Bob Phillips (chairman), Warren Reed and Dwain Sayre worked with the staff in revising the objectives of the Teachers Conference Program.

FFA Past President, Dave Branham was selected by Dr. Essex as the first youth representative to serve on the Ohio Advisory Council for Vocational Education.

Attractive *FFA Annual Report and Convention Program* made possible by Chapter Citrus Sales program. FFA Incentive Award Plaques given top three winners for the first time.

The recruitment of teachers through FFA Officer Training programs initiated. Fifteen hundred students participated.

Ralph Bender awarded the AVA Outstanding Service Award.

A Memorandum of Understanding Between the Cooperative Extension Service and Agricultural Education regard[illegible] Business Planning and Analysis developed.

NVATA winners included: Gle[illegible]h, Westerville, Career Orientation; Gary Bauer, Big Walnut, Young Teac[illegible] the Year.

Ohio Judging Contests, separate from the FFA Convention, were authorized.

Representatives from all taxonomy areas approved on an advisory basis.

James Dougan, Glen Griffith, Westerville; Henry Horstman, Anna; Odell Miller, Marysville; and Carl Nagy, Jeromesville, awarded Honorary American Farmer Degrees.

1972 - 1973

Joe Parrish, President, Caldwell

Jack Devitt, Vice President, Ottoville

Robert McBride, Secretary, Hardin Northern

Richard Mills, Treasurer, Triway

Clyde Keathley, Chaplain, Eastland

James Dougan, Assistant Director, Vocational Education

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

New Staff:

Wayne Asche, Chairman, Agricultural Education, Kent

Lawrence Erpelding, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – July 9 - 11, Scot's Inn

Theme: *Quality Programs, The Agenda for the Future*

Recognition Dinner: Scot's Inn (Featuring the Beetles: Ervin Pulse, Jack Nowels, Glen Boling and Virgil Koppes)

Speakers: Donald Shoemaker, State YFA President – *Serving the Young Farmer or Agribusiness Man*

David Branham, member of State Advisory Committee for Vocational Education – *Agricultural Education, A Part of the Team in Vocational Education*

Dean Simeral, Activities Director, Ohio Farm Bureau – *State Legislation Implications*

George Greenleaf, Executive Vice President, Ohio Grain and Feed Dealers Association

Willard Wolf and Ralph Woodin retired.

National FFA Alumni Association formed; Jerome Donovan, Delaware, vocational agriculture teacher elected Chairman, Ohio Association.

Farm Business Planning and Analysis taught full time by 14 Ohio vocational agriculture teachers.

One hundred Ohio Young Farmers joined with Indiana YFA in chartering a jet to the National YFA Convention in California.

Ohio FFA Camp Muskingum purchased 160 acres adjacent to the camp for an Outdoor Environmental Center.

An OVATA committee worked with the staff in revising the *Agricultural Education Manual of Operation.*

The BOOC Programs developed by 39 Ohio FFA Chapters to stimulate community improvement was financed by $7200 from the Farm and Home Administration.

The YFA, OVATA and FFA were accepted into the Ohio Agricultural Council.

Virgil Koppes was awarded the National Pfiser Dairy Award at Chicago.

An OVATA 50-year Celebration Committee appointed; Robert McBride, Chairman. Authorized to complete a history of the OVATA and hold a reception for past vocational agriculture teachers.

Leslie Crabbe, Wilbur Frantom, Pitsburg; Glenn Gallaway, Archbold; Fred Mengert, Arlington; and Daryl Sharp, Spencerville, awarded Honorary American Farmer Degrees.

1973 - 1974

Jack Devitt, President, Delphos

Robert McBride, Vice President, Hardin Northern

Norman Rodgers, Secretary, Warren Harding

Edgar Fawley, Treasurer, Hillsboro

James Neff, Chaplain, Wynford

James Dougan, Assistant Director, Vocational Education

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

Wayne Asche, Chairman, Agricultural Education, Kent

New Staff:

David McCracken, Agricultural Education

Kirby Barrick, Jr., Supervisor

Fred Schuman, Agricultural Education, Kent

L. H. Newcomb, Agricultural Education, OSU

CONFERENCE – July 8 - 10, Scot's Inn

Theme: *Plan Your Work and Work Your Plan*
Recognition Dinner: Scot's Inn
Speakers: Richard McDaniel, State FFA President – *Serving as My Adviser*
David Becker, State YFA President – *Serving the Young Farmer or Agribusiness Man*
Oliver Osasek, Ohio Senate – *Legislative Report Card*
Warren Reed, vocational agriculture teacher – *How to Teach*

Vocational agriculture enrolled 22,137 high school students with 555 teachers.

Paul Pulse retired.

State FFA Advisory Committee and the OVATA Executive Committee voted to select and recognize FFA Degree recipients by taxonomies.

Advisers Odell Miller, John Sherrick, Warren Reed and Glen Boling served as hosts for the new American Farmer drive-in interview plan.

FFA Delegates voted to re-establish the State FFA Parliamentary Procedure Contests initiated in 1936 and continued for several years.

The OVATA Taxonomy Committee worked with the staff in the development of curriculum guides for each of the nine agricultural education instructors' *Curriculum Guides for Career Education in Agricultural Business and Natural Resources.*

Seventeen full-time Farm Business Planning and Analysis instructors serve 1629 farmers.

James Gullinger, Illinois, NVATA officer participated in the conference.

The OVATA hosted the Region IV NVATA Leadership Conference at Hueston Woods.

Teachers, administrators, parents and businessmen spoke up for extended service for vocational agriculture teachers at the State Board of Education hearing on extended service and succeeded in getting state standards adopted by the State Board.

The OVATA became a member of the Ohio Agricultural Council.

A new OVATA office was created: President Elect.

Horace Hummell, Sugarcreek; Lowell McLear, Greenville; Howard Nowels, Fremont; Robert Phillips, Hilliard; and Paul Pulse, John Watkins and Ralph Woodin, staff members; awarded Honorary American Farmer Degrees.

1974 - 1975

Robert McBride, President, Hardin Northern

Alfred Cramton, President Elect, Lynchburg

Charles Freeman, Vice President, Botkins

Ray Clevenger, Secretary, Tinoro

Edgar Fawley, Treasurer, Hillsboro

Karle Lucal, Chaplain, Penta County JVS

James Dougan, Assistant Director, Vocational Education

Ralph Bender, Chairman, Agricultural Education, OSU

Wayne Asche, Chairman, Agricultural Education, Kent

New Staff:

Joseph Gliem, Agricultural Education

CONFERENCE – July 7 - 9, Scot's Inn

Ed Barnett, Waterford; Ray Griffith, River View; Joe Parrish, Caldwell; Duane Van Sickel, Buckeye Valley; and Willard Wolf, staff, received Honorary American Farmer Degrees.

Jim Faust, Peebles; and Gary Bauer, Sunbury, were appointed co-chairmen for the OVA Convention Program.

An OVATA Executive Committee, under the Direction of Vice President Charles Freeman, was appointed to develop an Annual Program of Activities to conform to the NVATA.

The OVATA appropriated $300 for expenses to interview the American Farmer candidates.

FFA innovations under consideration:

- Reapportionment of State Convention delegates
- Substitute *District Vice Presidents* for *Sectional Vice Presidents*
- Allow multiple participation for large chapters

Action was taken to revise the OVATA Teacher Directory.

An Outstanding Young Teacher Award initiated by the OVATA. State winner to be selected from district winners.

X. THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OF THE OHIO VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

Wives of teachers of vocational agriculture have traditionally been a part of the "team." In the planning of banquets and other social affairs, displays, trips, etc., wives are very important. They bring to these activities an artistic touch sometimes lacking in the masculine make-up. In the local community, they are equally important, participating enthusiastically with their husbands in the many and varied community activities.

Therefore, it is logical that wives have enjoyed a prominent place in State Conferences of vocational agriculture teachers. Naturally they should have their own program but frequently they join their husbands for dinners, luncheons and special programs.

Information regarding the Ladies' programs prior to 1937 is very sketchy. However, programs are available since that time and the summary which follows gives an indication of the varied interests of the members. Also it reveals their resourcefulness in planning, whereby they take advantage of available people and interesting places to see in the Columbus and Wooster areas.

OFFICERS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE
OVATA WOMEN'S AUXILIARY
1937 - 1975

1928 – Mrs. Kyle, Mrs. Neff and Mrs. Vanderpoel in charge of Ladies' Program

1937 – Mrs. George Krill, Chairman

1938 – Mrs. Nelson Beem, Chairman; assisting, Mrs. E. O. Bolender

1939 – Mrs. Paul Mengert, Chairman

1940 – Mrs. Floyd Ruble, Chairman

Campbell Hall Auditorium – OSU Garden Tour and Movies
Visit to Columbus Airport, first Transcontinental plane arrives
Visit to Fenton's Dry Cleaning and Dyeing establishment
Informal Tea – Governor's Mansion
Visit to Columbus *Dispatch* office
Visit to the Ohio Supreme Court

1941 – Mrs. Ralph Van Buren, Chairman
Assisted by: Mrs. J. Willard Matz
Mrs. Ralph Howard
Mrs. Warren Weiler
Visit to Film Censorship, State Office Building
Lecture and demonstration on meats, Prof. Larry Kunkle
Luncheon with husbands, Pomerene Refectory; Speaker: B. P. Sandles, Manager, Ohio State Junior Fair
Tea at home of Mrs. Ray Fife
Visit to Moores and Ross Creamery
Luncheon at Southern Hotel
Trip through the Ohio Penitentiary
Roundup at The Ohio State University Golf Club and dinner with men

1942 – Mrs. Ralph Foltz, Chairman
Assisted by: Mrs. Ralph Howard
Mrs. E. O. Bolender
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Luncheon with husbands in Pomerene Refectory; Speaker: A. W. Short
Visit to Lazarus Style Center
Assemble, Campbell Hall Auditorium; Speaker: Louis Bromfield, author and conservationist
Visit to Virginia Gay home for retired teachers
Luncheon, Chase Tavern, Worthington
Visit to Girls' Industrial Home, Delaware
Visit to The Ohio State University Museum
Luncheon with husbands, Pomerene Refectory; Speaker: E. L. Bowsher, Superintendent City Schools
Tea at home of Mrs. Harold Kenestrick
Roundup with husbands at OSU Golf Course

1943 – Mrs. Paul Hartsook, Chairman
Assisted by: Mrs. Dale Friday
Mrs. Ralph Howard
Mrs. Harold Kenestrick
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Assemble Campbell Hall Auditorium; Speakers:
Mrs. Ralph Powell, *Chinese Women*
Miss Edna Callahan, *Repair and Remodeling of Clothing*
Tea at home of Mrs. Warren Weiler; Speaker: Mrs. Peter Epp, *A Lesson From Russian Women*

Visit to the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation Office
Luncheon
Trip to the Institution for the Feebleminded
Picnic with husbands, OSU Golf Course
Assemble in Commerce Auditorium with husbands; Speaker: Sigmund Skaard, *Norway Fights On*

1944 – Conference at FFA Camp Muskingum – no special program

1945 – Due to War, conference by sections of state. No Women's Program

1946 – Conference at The Ohio State University
Visit to Mental Institution
Tea at Faculty Club
Program on *Flower Arrangements* by Mrs. Floyd Ruble

1947 – Mrs. Ralph Harner, Chairman
Assisted by: Mrs. E. O. Bolender
Mrs. Warren Weiler
Mrs. Ralph Howard

Lecture: Wilbur Gould, *Frozen Foods;* and John Russell, *Frozen Freshness*
Luncheon, Lanes Party House
Speaker: Mrs. P. D. Wickline, *England*
Solo: Mrs. Ralph Foltz
Tour, Virginia Gay Home for Retired Teachers
Tour, Kroger Baking Company
Tea, the Governor's Mansion
Speaker: Dorothy Albaugh, *Romance of Old Jewelry*
Music by Shirley Bolender, *Moonlight Sonata*

1948 – Mrs. Ralph Foltz, Chairman
Conference at Wooster, limited program

1949 – Mrs. Paul Pulse, Chairman
Assisted by: Mrs. Ralph Howard
Mrs. Warren Weiler
Assemble, University Hall
Luncheon downtown
Visit to Film Censorship, State Department of Education
Tour, Capital City Products Company
Tour, Batelle Institute
Luncheon, Ewing Dinner House

1950 – Mrs. Clyde Beougher, Chairman
Assisted by: Mrs. Warren Weiler
Mrs. Floyd Ruble
Tour of OSU greenhouses and gardens
Movie at Censor Board, State Department of Education
Television show at WLWC
Conducted tour of the Ohio State Museum
Luncheon at Balcony Hall; Speaker: Lynn Raymond, *My Trip to Egypt*
Visit to *Dispatch* kitchen for discussion on foods
Lazarus, *Pictures on Home Decorations*
Luncheon in Lazarus Tea Room with style show
Behind the scenes at Lazarus
Honor Dinner, Beechwold Inn, guests of Sears Foundation

1951 – Mrs. Loy Clark, Chairman
Assisted by: Mrs. Warren Weiler

Assemble at University Hall
Tour, Ohio State Penitentiary
Luncheon at Granville Inn
Tour of the Heisey Glass Plant, Newark
Tour of the new Agriculture building, OSU
Luncheon with husbands at Pomerene Refectory
Address by Dr. Jonathan Foreman on Diet and Health
Tea given by District 12; Speaker: Glenn Lackey, *My Visit to England*
Business meeting
Early Worm TV Breakfast, Neil House
William Henry Harrison House, Ohio State Fairgrounds
Show, tour, luncheon and broadcast
Recognition Dinner, Beechwold, Louis Bromfield, author and speaker

1952 – Mrs. Hugh Austermiller, Chairman
Assisted by: Mrs. Warren Weiler
Mrs. D. R. Purkey

Assemble in Wooster High School
Luncheon at Keeneys
Experiment Station, home gardens, small fruits and arboretum
Illustrated lecture; Speaker: James Wallace, Farm Manager, Iowa State College, *The Human Side of Farming*
Tour Holmes Swiss Cheese Company, Holmesville
Picnic lunch at Orrville Park served by Wayne County vocational agriculture wives

Tour of Smith Dairy
Tour of Smuckers
Honor banquet at Smithville Inn, guests of Sears Foundation
Tour Wooster Rubber Company
Tour Apple Creek State Hospital
Luncheon and business meeting at Smithville Inn

1953 – Mrs. Glen Griffith, Chairman
Mrs. Paul Mechling, Secretary
Mrs. Glenn Gallaway, Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. D. R. Purkey
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Assemble at University Hall
Tour of Farm Bureau co-op store and new Insurance Building
Movie, Censor Board, State Department of Education
Tour of new OSU Dental Building and University Hospital
Luncheon at Marysville
Tour of Women's Reformatory at Marysville
Tour of OSU rose gardens and greenhouses
Join with husbands to hear H. H. Stevens, Director of Textile Research, Goodyear and Company
Luncheon and business meeting at Ohio House, State Fairgrounds, Speaker: Ruth Linville, OSU Home Economics Staff, *Choosing Becoming Clothes*

1954 – Mrs. Glenn Gallaway, Chairman
Mrs. Paul Mechling, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Max Stauffer, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. D. R. Purkey
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Tour of Whetstone Park of Roses
Lunch, Ohio Union
Visit Jewish Synagogue
Tour of new Blind School
Lunch and entertainment, *Penny Pruden's Pantry*, WLW radio show
Costumes and Curios From India, Mrs. Luke Kelley and daughter from Lansing, Michigan
Assemble in Hagerty Hall for business meeting
Tour of OSU new Dairy Science Building and lecture on *Cheese and Dairy Products* by Messrs. Burgwald and Gould
Lunch, Ohio Union
Tour, Julian and Kokenge Shoe Company

1955 – Mrs. Paul Mechling, Chairman

Meeting at Wooster. No program except a Tea and some music

1956 – Mrs. Paul Mechling, Chairman
Mrs. Roy Becker, Vice Chairman
Mrs. Wenrich Stuckey, Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Floyd Ruble
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Assemble at Youth Center, State Fairgrounds to get acquainted
Luncheon with husbands at Youth Center
Tour of Ohio State School for the Deaf
Garden Tour and Informal Tea at the home of Mrs. Warren Weiler
Lecture by Dr. Kenneth McFarland, General Motors
Luncheon at Ilonkas; special music by Joan Woodin
Glimpses of Europe by Mrs. Floyd Ruble, in Pomerene Hall
Luncheon at Pomerene Refectory
Program by Home Economics staff at Campbell Hall
Honor Banquet, Ohio Union, guests of Sears Foundation; Speaker: Dr. A. W. Tenney

1957 – Mrs. Roy Becker, Chairman
Mrs. John Fraker, Vice Chairman
Mrs. John Starling, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. D. R. Purkey
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Cooking demonstration, Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Luncheon and tour of the Westinghouse plant
The Seven Wonders of the World, Western Shopping Center
Visit to Magnetic Springs Polio Foundation
Luncheon at church in the vicinity
Demonstration on flower arrangements at Youth Center by student
Lecture, Warren Guthrie, Cleveland news commentator
Luncheon at Youth Center and business meeting
Informal Tea, Youth Center by Union County vocational agriculture teachers' wives

1958 – Mrs. John Fraker, President
Mrs. Howard Nowels, Vice President
Mrs. A. R. Hocking, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Herbert Brum
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Lunch, Youth Center
Tour, Continental Baking Company
Tour, Museum and Gardens, The Ohio State University
Luncheon, Pomerene Refectory
Tea, Governor's Mansion
Banquet, Ohio Union, guests of Sears Foundation
Meeting at Youth Center; Speaker: Dr. E. E. Holt, State Superintendent
Business meeting with luncheon, Balcony Hall
  Speaker: Mrs. Ru Chih – Chow Huang

1959 – Mrs. Howard Nowels, President
Mrs. David Colville, Vice President
Mrs. John Sherrick, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. James Dougan
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Registration and coffee hour, Youth Center
Bus tour of OSU campus with talk by Mr. Carl Weals: *Inside Foliage Plants for Contemporary Home Decoration* at Horticulture Building
Luncheon at the Ohio Union
Tour of the Ohio State Capitol Building followed by shopping
Meeting at Youth Center; Speakers:
  D. R. Purkey and John Starling, *Our Vacation in Turkey*
Tour of Funk and Wagnalls Memorial, Lithopolis
Lunchon and tour, Lockbourne Air Force Base
Recognition Banquet with husbands, Ohio Union, guests of Sears Foundation
Tour of Ohio Bell Telephone Company
Luncheon, Youth Center; Speaker: Mrs. David Barrett, *My Experiences as a German Exchange Student*

1960 – Mrs. David Colville, President
Mrs. John Starling, Vice President
Mrs. Ralph Needs, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. James Dougan
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Registration, get acquainted and coffee hour
Tour, new Columbus Airport and weather station. Luncheon at Airport
Tour, University Hospital and Dental Building
Lunch, Ohio Union
Flower arranging demonstration by Mrs. Floyd Ruble at Youth Center

Recognition Banquet with husbands, Youth Center, guests of Sears Foundation
Tour of Park of Roses
Luncheon at Beechwold with talk on interior decorations, Mr. Ferguson

1961 – Mrs. John Starling, President
Mrs. Ralph Needs, Vice President
Mrs. Charles Shaver, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Herbert Brum
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Registration and coffee hour, Agricultural Administration Building
Get acquainted activities, Mrs. Don McCreight
Lunch, Mills Cafeteria
Cinerama at Grand Theater
Food Demonstration, Betty Newton, Gas Company
Tour, Pilot Dog Training Center
Recognition Banquet with husbands, guests of Sears Foundation
Corsage Making by Mrs. Reo Kaltenbach at Animal Science Center
Lunch, Chicken Barbeque, Agricultural Administration Building
Business meeting; Speaker; Dr. Kenneth McFarland

1962 – Mrs. Ralph Needs, President
Mrs. J. J. Kreglow, Vice President
Mrs. William Minner, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Floyd Ruble
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Coffee and get acquainted hour, Mrs. Kreglow
Behind the Scenes at Lazarus
Lunch at Lazarus, Beauty Consultant and Hair Dresser
Assemble in Agricultural Administration Building
Devotions
Tour Borden's Ice Cream Plant
Tea – Mrs. Floyd Ruble's Home
Recognition Dinner with husbands at Ohio Union, guests of Sears Foundation
A Little Bit of Hawaii
Lunch and business meeting, Jai Lai restaurant

1963 – Mrs. Charles Shaver, Vice President
Mrs. Clyde Stout, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Floyd Ruble
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Registration and get acquainted, Agricultural Administration Building
Visit to Columbus Gallery of Fine Arts
Lunch and shopping
Garments and accessories, Mrs. Orena Haynes, OSU Clothing Specialist
Lunch, Pomerene Refectory
Hats! Hats! Hats! Mrs. L. L. Liggett, Marysville
Recognition Banquet with husbands, King's Inn, guests of Sears Foundation
John Russell, *A Picture Tour of Russia,* Vivian Hall
Lunch with husbands
Business meeting, Agricultural Administration Building
Program with husbands, Carl Byers, General Motors

1964 – Mrs. Charles Shaver, President
Mrs. Clyde Stout, Vice President
Mrs. George Landon, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Floyd Ruble
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Registration and coffee hour, Agricultural Administration Building
Get acquainted
Christmas in July, bring one Christmas item. Mrs. Floyd Ruble assisting with display
Shopping
Tour Methodist Theological School, Delaware
Luncheon, Green Meadows
Program by Mary Ann Tomlinson, WRFD
Recognition Banquet with husbands, Ohio Union, guests of Sears Foundation
Devotions, Agricultural Administration Building
Dean Miller Show, WLWC
Business meeting. *Vocational Agriculture Styles '64.* Bring a self-created item.
Lunch with husbands; Speaker, Warren Guthrie, Sohio, Cleveland

1965 – Mrs. Clyde Stout, President
Mrs. Don McCreight, Vice President
Mrs. Gayle Grimes, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Herbert Brum
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Registration, coffee and doughnuts
Devotions, Mrs. Charles Shaver. Get acquainted

Visit to Japanese Tea House, Westerville. Mrs. Herbert Brum assisting
Devotions, Ruth Needs
Landscape slides and discussion by Robert Thornberry, OSU
Tour of Home Economics facilities, OSU
Lunch at Pomerene
Silver Anniversary Tea, home of Mrs. Warren Weiler
Banquet with husbands at Ohio; guests of Sears Foundations
Devotions, Lolita Burt
Games, Sandy McCreight
Tour, German Village
Lunch with husbands
Business meeting

1966 – Mrs. Don McCreight, President
Mrs. Gayle Grimes, Vice President
Mrs. Pat Keppler, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Herbert Brum
Mrs. Warren Weiler

Registration, coffee break; hostesses: Ruth Needs and Thelma Shaver
Devotions, Esther Ramey
Get acquainted, Ruth Needs and Thelma Shaver
Tour of Harris Ceramic Shop
Lunch at Jai Lai followed by shopping
Meeting at Vivian Hall; hostesses: Lois Fraker and Pat Keppler
  Devotions, Claribel Gallaway
  Business meeting
  Speaker: Mrs. Ralph Simester, *First Ladies of the White House*
Join husbands for guest speaker, John Furbay
Lunch with husbands, Plumb Hall
Hair styling and fashions, Pat Keppler, cosmetologist
Recognition Dinner, Ohio Union, guests of Sears Foundation
Visit to LeVeque-Lincoln Tower
Meeting in Vivian Hall; hostesses: Lolita Burt and Louise Stou
Devotions, Barbara Rehmert
Hat Style Show – your original design re: horticulture, cattle, etc.
Visit to Center of Science and Industry
Lunch at Christopher Inn

1967 – Mrs. Gayle Grimes, President
Pat Keppler, Vice President
Aldine McClintock, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Daryl Parks
Mrs. Floyd Ruble
Mrs. Franklin Miller
Mrs. James Dougan

Registration, Agricultural Administration Building
Coffee and doughnuts
Devotions, Mrs. Glenn Gallaway
Get acquainted, Louis Stout, Barbara Rehmert and Lois Fraker
Speaker: Mrs. Marian Wells, Director, Ohio Mental Health Association, *The Community Has the Answer*
Lunch, Pomerene Refectory, followed by shopping
Assemble, Agricultural Education Building; hostesses: Ruth Needs and Thelma Shaver
Special interests and hobby show
Business neeting
Lunch at Stouffers Inn – Tour of Model Homes
Recognition Dinner with husbands, guests of Sears Foundation
Breakfast with husbands, guests of Geigy Chemical Company
A Visit to India, Mrs. Leon Boucher
Lunch with husbands; Speaker: Everett Lindsay, Gulf Oil

1968 – Mrs. Patricia Keppler, President
Mrs. Hugh Austermiller, Vice President
Mrs. Mary Lou McNeal, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Floyd Ruble,
Mrs. Welch Barnett
Mrs. James Dougan

Registration $.50, coffee and doughnuts
Devotions, Cheryl Rickenbacker
Get acquainted, Bonnie McBride; Bring favorite recipe
Cooking demonstration, Columbus and Southern Ohio. Refreshments
Shopping
Assemble, Agricultural Administration Building
Devotions, Karen Harlan
Doll Show, Marian Vance
Business meeting
Lunch, Granville Inn, tour of Byrn Du Farms with Sally Sexton

Recognition Dinner with husbands, guests of Sears Foundation
Breakfast with husbands, Ohio Union, guests of Geigy Chemical Company
Ceramics, Karen Harlan, Orton Hall
Nick Clooney Show, WLW
Lunch with husbands; Speaker: Carl Winters, General Motors

1969 – Mrs. Hugh Austermiller, President
Mrs. Karl McNeal, Vice President
Mrs. Helen Hollinger, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. John Starling
Mrs. Richard Hummell
Mrs. James Dougan

Assemble, registration, coffee
Devotions and get acquainted, Barbara Rehmert and Mary Lou McNeal
What's Cookin'? Mrs. James Dougan
Ceramics, Karen Harlan
Lunch followed shopping and tour of German Village
Recognition Dinner with husbands, guests of Sears Foundation
Assemble, Orton Hall
Devotions, Barbara Rehmert
Style Show, Barbara Rehmert
Business meeting
Lunch, then join husbands for Speaker, G. R. Msqueiler, Westinghouse

1970 – Mary Lou McNeal, President
Helen Hollinger, Vice President
Nadine Iams, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. John Starling
Mrs. James Dougan

Registration $.75 with coffee hour
Devotions, Lois Fraker
Get acquainted, Helen Hollinger, *Making Paper Flowers*
Shopping
Tour of Ohio Youth Commission
Smorgasbord, Lincoln Lodge
Speaker: William Woodward, Columbus and Southern, *Lighting*
Recognition Dinner with husbands, guests of Sears Foundation
Coffee hour, Mrs. James Dougan, home
Talk on Antiques, Mrs. David Dethune
Lunch and join husbands for speaker, G. R. Msqueiler

1971 – Mrs. Helen Hollinger, President
Mrs. Nadine Iams, Vice President
Mrs. Bonnie McBride, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Earl Kantner
Mrs. James Dougan
Registration, Scot's Inn, coffee and doughnuts
Devotions, Nadine Iams
Hobby Show and Tell Time by members
Sewing Methods Used With Knits, Mrs. Lorin Schoephoerster
Tour of the Center of Tomorrow
Tour of Park of Roses, lunch, own choice
Tour of Ohio Historical Society Museum
Recognition Dinner at Scot's Inn
Coffee hour at the home of Mrs. Ralph Bender
Business meeting
A Visit With Ann (Mrs. Woody) Hayes
Join husbands for closing meeting; Speaker: Earl L. Butz

1972 – Mrs. Nadine Iams, President
Bonnie McBride, Vice President
Sue Baderscher, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. John Watkins
Mrs. James Dougan

Registration, $1.00, coffee and cookies, Scot's Inn
A Moment for Reflection, Doris Pulse
Let's Get Acquainted, Bonnie McBride and Florence Poulson
Let's Decorate a Cake, Joanne Overmyer
Let's Learn About Haviland China, Mrs. Charles Bell
Another Moment to Reflect, Maxine MacMurray
Mixers, Bonnie McBride
Let's Paint in Water Colors, Karen Jones
What's New in Household Equipment, Anne Coveney, OSU Home Economics Department
Lunch, Jai Lai, followed by trip to Lee Ward's Store
Recognition Dinner with husbands, Scot's Inn
Coffee hour at the Earl Kantner residence
Business meeting
Our Last Moment of Reflection, Jan Reese
Let's Travel to Europe, Dorothy (Howard) Nowels
Lunch - your choice

197[illegible] – Bonnie McBride, President
Sue Badertscher, Vice President
Miriam Deeds, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. John Starling
Mrs. James Dougan

Registration $1.00, Scot's Inn
Devotions, Kathleen Freeman
It's Get Acquainted Time, Sue Badertscher
It's Hobby Time, flowers from plastic egg cartons
Shopping
Assemble, Scot's Inn
Devotions, Mary Margaret Miller
Style Show, by our own OVATA Ladies
Handwriting Analysis, R. W. Loeffler
Lunch at Betty Crocker's Tree House
Visit to the Governor's Mansion
Recognition Dinner with husbands at Scot's Inn
Business meeting
Devotions, Mary Lou McNeal
Suggestion Time for 1974
Time to Go to Jamaica Via Slides by Richard Pruden
Lunch, your choice

1974 – Sue Badertscher, President
Sally Dilgard, Vice President
Doris Pulse, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. Paul Pulse
Mrs. James Dougan

Registration $1.00 with social hour, Sally Dilgard
Devotions, Karen Jones
Behind the Scenes, tour of Lazarus followed by shopping
Assemble, Scot's Inn
Devotions, Sandy Williams
Get acquainted time, Sally Dilgard
Surprise – *THE BEETLES*
Wide Wonderful World of Herbs, Herb Ladies of Gahanna
Jane Geroux, Chairman
Lunch on your own
Tour of the OSU horticulture facilities
Recognition Dinner with husbands at Scot's Inn

Assemble, Devotions, by Mary Lou McNeal
Change the Clothes You Don't Like, Orena Haynes, Home Economics
Style Show, Ohio Wool Growers' Association
Door Prizes
Lunch with husbands

1975 – Sally Dilgard, President
Doris Pulse, Vice President
Virginia Hiller, Secretary-Treasurer
Assisted by: Mrs. James Cummins
Mrs. James Dougan

APPENDIX

MY CREED

I am a teacher of Vocational Agriculture by choice and not by chance.

I believe in America; I dedicate my life to its development and the advancement of its people.

I will strive to set before my students by my deeds and actions the highest standards of citizenship for the community state and nation.

I will endeavor to develop professionally through study, travel and exploration.

I will not knowingly wrong my fellow teacher. I will defend him as far as honesty will permit.

I will work for the advancement of Vocational Agriculture and I will defend it in my community, state and nation.

I realize that I am a part of the public school system. I will work in harmony with school authorities and other teachers of the school.

My love for people will spur me on to impart something from my life that will help make for each of my students a full and happy future.

NATIONAL VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Purposes

1. To assume and maintain an active state leadership in the promotion of agriculture education
2. To bring together all vocational agriculture educators through membership in a state organization devoted exclusively to their interests
3. To serve district and/or county organizations of agriculture education in the solution of their problems
4. To cooperate with other vocational and professional organizations

THE OVATA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The major objectives of the OVATA Executive Committee should be as follows:

1. To plan and conduct an educational leadership program that will achieve the purposes and goals of the OVATA
2. To plan and direct the activities of the local district and have a high degree of accomplishments
3. To review, refine and adopt policies and activities of the state staff and to assist in implementing these on the district and state level
4. To assist in the planning and conducting of a state-wide conference for the technical and professional improvement of vocational agriculture teachers
5. Selection of District Chairmen – There is a need for developing a list of duties and responsibilities of district chairmen. There is also a need for the revision of the method used for the selection of district chairmen. It is suggested that each district nominate two people that will accept the district chairmanship if elected. Teachers within the district would vote for their district chairman at the district meeting held during the State Conference.

PAST PRESIDENTS OF OVATA

1921	E. O. Bolender	Ashley
1922	E. O. Bolender	Ashley
1925	L. D. Mennell	Green Springs
1926	E. R. Tam	Kenton
1927	C. D. Steiner	Pandora
1928	A. C. Kennedy	Worthington
1929	L. B. Fidler	Waldo
1930	H. H. Gabel	Barnesville
1931	H. M. Doyle	Wooster
1932	S. L. Ruddell	Bethel
1933	P. M. Cunningham	Shreve

1934	W. G. Weiler	Fremont
1935	J. E. Everett	Bryan
1936	G. H. Krill	Ashland
1937	D. B. Robinson	Kenton
1938	O. L. Young	Germantown
1939	J. H. Leonard	Van Wert
1940	C. H. Clary	Versailles
1941	R. E. Burdick	Fremont
1942	W. H. Teegarden	Spencerville
1943	J. A. Odegard	Defiance
1944	R. E. Bender	Canal Winchester
1945	D. R. Purkey	Wauseon
1946	E. M. Caldwell	Buckskin
1947	G. R. Boling	Wooster
1948	D. E. Colville	Utica
1949	D. C. Sharp	Minster
1950	C. R. Fridline	Mt. Vernon
1951	L. W. Boucher	Hilliard
1952	L. F. Crabbe	Mowrystown
1953	D. L. Cornett	Pleasant
1954	P. P. Mechling	Lancaster
1955	C. C. Beougher	Delaware
1956	J. E. Nowels	Loudonville
1957	G. E. Gallaway	Archbold
1958	J. T. Starling	Shawnee
1959	P. H. Eckler	Milan
1960	J. W. Fraker	Kenton
1961	J. J. Kreglow	Ada
1962	R. L. Hummel	Spencerville
1963	D. H. Waliser	Lancaster
1964	R. W. Hiller	Ashland
1965	R. E. Diley	Milton Union
1966	F. D. Miller	Madison Local
1967	L. B. Smith	Delphos
1968	A. E. Roberts	East Clinton
1969	O. C. Miller	Marysville
1970	W. L. Reed	Crestview
1971	R. G. Phillips	Madison-South
1972	J. E. Parrish	Caldwell
1973	J. E. Devitt	Delphos

THE FIRST DEPARTMENTS OF VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE IN OHIO AND THE INSTRUCTORS

January 1, 1918

Bellefontaine	W. T. Ryan
Berlin Township, Erie County	J. M Whitney
*Fayette	L. J. Smith
*Gibsonburg	R. B. Kinkead
Harmony Township, Clark County	J. R. Allgyer
Hebron	F. H. Smith
*Hillsboro	T. E. Beery
Liverpool Township, Medina County	E. W. Budd
Medina	A. C. Kennedy
Millersburg	O. D. Henry
Montgomery Township, Wood County	G. K. Swaslin
*New Bremen	O. P. Gossard
Painesville	A. B. Williams
*Paulding	H. Atwood
*Pleasant Township, Marion County	E. B. Haws
*Versailles	H. W. Nisonger
Wadsworth	R. B. Simon
Wooster	H. W. Zercher
Worthington	W. W. Montgomery

*Seven of the original 19 schools have active departments in 1975.

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE OVATA

The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association has endeavored to honor its members who have given many years of dedicated service. This effort was first initiated in 1956 when four members were recognized for 30 years of service. This pattern has been continued and, in addition, in 1962 seven retirees were recognized for their years of service. The honoring of retirees has been continued since that date. A roll call of those recognized follows, listed by years of service:

48	Willard Wolf
46	Paul Pulse
45	Floyd Ruble
44	E. O. Bolender
	George Gray
42	W. R. Sunderland
	Ralph Woodin
41	Ralph A. Howard
	R. G. McMurray
40	O. C. Duke
	John Everett
	George Krill
	W. W. Nesbitt
	Warren Weiler
39	R. L. Frankenfeld
	J. H. Lintner
38	K. L. Burris
	J. F. Campbell
	Lloyd Fidler
	H. D. Fleming
	Paul Hartsook
	W. F. Stewart
37	A. J. Bishop
	A. R. Hocking
	Burdette Hunter
	C. E. Pickering
	D. R. Purkey
	Paul Schlotterbeck
	P. D. Wickline
36	John Borton
	Ralph Brooks
	C. V. Donnell
	Sidney Fadley
	Paul Hanes
	R. C. Liming
	Paul Mengert
	Ralph Young
35	G. W. Bachelder
	R. S. Beard
	Clyde Beougher
	E. R. Frelsford
	Ray Diley
	R. A. Druyor
	Kenneth Eby
	Ralph Foltz
	John Fraker
	Willis Fravel
	C. R. Fridline
	Glenn Gallaway
	Lester George
	R. A. Gisler
	Glen Griffith
	Rees Hackenbracht
	Hillis Hall
	Ralph Harner
	Earl Hetrick
	J. A. Kennard
	Francis Miller
	Harold Moorhead
	Leonard Morse
	James Penrod
	R. S. Rickley
	Scott Rigdon
	D. H. Scott
	C. W. Shaver
	Daryl Sharp
	Harold Slager
	Lloyd Smith
	C. W. Snider
	Foster Thomas
	Jerry Vogt
	H. H. Warner
	T. A. Wheeler

RECIPIENTS OF THE OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

The leadership of the OVATA has always maintained high standards of professional excellence. In 1966, a committee of teachers was appointed to develop a plan whereby outstanding vocational agriculture teachers might be selected. The recommendations of this committee were approved in 1967 and, during the 1968 Conference Recognition Dinner, five teachers were honored – one from each section of the state. This practice has been followed each successive year and the names of those selected follow:

1968	Glen Boling Ralph Brooks Howard Nowels Ralph Sawyer P. D. Wickline
1969	Kenneth Eby Clarence Fridline Ralph Harner Henry Horstman Horace Hummell
1970	Ray Diley Paul Hartsook Jack Nowels Joseph Parrish Raymond Rickley
1971	John Borton Kenneth Burris Willis Fravel Glen Griffith Wilbur Weir
1972	Alfred Cramton John Fraker D. C. McInturf Carl Nagy Ralph Young
1973	Franklin Deeds Glenn Gallaway Ray Griffith Franklin Miller Dale Scott Lloyd Smith
1974	Edmund Barnett Don Beier James Scisson Lloyd Sharp Jerome Vogt

OHIO TEACHERS ELECTED TO HONORARY STATE FARMER DEGREE

1944	John Leonard
1948	Harold Moorhead
1949	Daryl Sharp
1950	G. H. Krill
	P. D. Wickline
1952	Ralph Foltz
	Paul Hartsook
	Jack Nowels
1955	Richard Hummel
	Carl Nagy
1958	Archie Bishop
	John Borton
	Lewis Rader
1959	Glen Boling
	Ralph Harner
	Franklin Miller
1960	Ray Diley
1961	Clyde Beougher
1962	John Fraker
1963	Glen Griffith
1964	Howard Kiser
1965	Paul Hanes
1966	Donald Mercer
1967	C. S. Snyder
	Dale Scott
1968	Lloyd Conover
	H. H. Warner
1969	Glenn Gallaway
	Mark Keith
	David Miskell
	Howard Nowels
	Lloyd Smith
	James Westfall
1970	Odell Miller
	Ralph Young
	Harold Merkle
1971	Henry Horstman
	Warren Reed
1972	Kenneth Eby
	Wilbur Frantom
	Fred Mengert
	David Mizer
	Norman Sargent
	Daryl Sharp
1973	Horace Hummell
	Lowell McClear
	Joe Parrish
	Richard Parrott
	Robert Phillips
1974	Jack Devitt
	Raymond Griffith
	Duane Van Sickle
	R. B. Warner

OHIO TEACHERS AND STAFF MEMBERS AWARDED THE HONORARY AMERICAN FARMER DEGREE

1933	Ray Fife
1948	Ralph Howard
1949	John Leonard
	P. D. Wickline
1950	W. F. Stewart
1953	Jack Nowels
1954	Ralph Foltz
	George Krill
	Harold Moorhead
1955	John Borton
1957	Archie Bishop
	Warren Weiler
1958	Glen Boling
	Ralph Harner
	Lewis Rader
1959	Franklin Miller
1960	Ray Diley
1961	Clyde Beougher
1962	E. O. Bolender
	J. W. Fraker
1963	Richard Hummel
	D. R. Purkey
1964	James Bratton
	Paul Hanes
	Howard Kiser
1966	Floyd Ruble
1967	Ralph Bender
1969	J. H. Lintner
1970	Roger Warner
	Ralph Young
1971	James Dougan
	Glen Griffith
	Henry Horstman
	Odell Miller
	Carl Nagy
1972	Leslie Crabbe
	Wilbur Frantom
	Glenn Gallaway
	Fred Mengert
	Daryl Sharp
1973	Horace Hummell
	Lowell McLear
	Howard Nowels
	Robert Phillips
	Paul Pulse
	John Watkins
	Ralph Woodin
1974	Ed Barnett
	Ray Griffith
	Joe Parrish
	Duane Van Sickle
	Willard Wolf

CONSTITUTION

1929 - 1930

(This copy of a Constitution was found in a 1929 - 1930 vocational agriculture folder, missing for many years and located in January 1975. The names of six teachers who were active in vocational agriculture in the twenties appear on the manuscript. These were: Merriam, Vanderpoel, Talbot, Howard, Ross and McAnall.)

1. This Association shall be called the Ohio Association of Vocational Agriculture Teachers.
2. The purpose of this Association shall be:
   a. To promote vocational education in agriculture
   b. To coordinate the work of the different departments in each section of the state
   c. To set up an advisory relationship to supervision and teacher training for the formulation of policies
   d. To provide a means for promoting and conducting sectional activities
3. The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer.
4. The state shall be divided into sections numbering from one to eleven. There shall be a Chairman and Vice Chairman for each section. The Chairman and Vice Chairman shall be elected by the teachers in their respective sections at the Annual Conference to serve for two years. After the first year, the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the odd-numbered sections shall be elected in odd-numbered years. The Chairman of the even-numbered sections shall be elected in even-numbered years. In event the Chairman relinquishes his office, the Vice Chairman shall succeed him. If both Chairman and Vice Chairman relinquish their positions as instructors in any section, the President of the Association shall appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman who shall hold office till the next Annual Conference at which time a special election for that section shall be held to fill the offices until the next regular election.

The Sectional Chairman along with the President, Vice President and Secretary-Treasurer shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Association. The duties of the officers shall be those commonly ascribed to such officers.

5. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice per year. One meeting shall be held at the time of the Annual Conference and the others as determined by the Executive Committee.
6. This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of all members present at the regular business session of the Association at the Annual Conference. Amendments may be submitted to the Secretary in writing not later than the first day of the Conference.
7. Changes in sectional boundaries may be made by a three-fourth vote of the Executive Committee.

CONSTITUTION

OHIO VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

1974 REVISION

Article I – Name and Affiliation

Section 1 The name of this organization shall be the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

Section 2 The Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association is affiliated with the Ohio Vocational Association, the American Vocational Association and the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

Article II – Purposes and Objectives

Section 1 The purposes of this association shall be:

- a. To assume and maintain an active state leadership in the promotion of agricultural education
- b. To bring together all vocational agriculture educators through membership in a state organization devoted exclusively to their interests
- c. To serve district and/or county organizations of agricultural education in the solution of their problems
- d. To cooperate with other vocational and agricultural professional organizations

Section 2 The objectives of the Executive Committee shall be:

- a. To plan and conduct an educational leadership program which will achieve the objectives of the OVATA
- b. To assist in the planning and conducting of a state-wide conference for the professional and technical improvement of agricultural educators
- c. To review, define and adopt policies and/or activities of the district and/or state levels
- d. To plan and direct the activities of the district and/or county organizations

Article III – Membership

Section 1 Membership shall be limited to vocational agriculture teachers, local supervisors of agricultural education, state teacher training staffs, state supervisory staff, and agricultural education majors enrolled in teacher preparation programs.

Section 2 The membership year shall extend from July 1 of one year until June 20 of the following year, regardless of the time at which dues are paid.

Article IV – Officers and Duties

Section 1 The officers of the association shall consist of: president, president elect, vice president, secretary, treasurer, chaplain and retired president.

Section 2a The president, president elect, vice president, secretary and chaplain shall be elected each year at annual conference and serve throughout the next conference.

Section 2b The treasurer will be elected every three years at conference and serve for a period of three years.

Section 3 The Executive Committee shall fill any vacancy occuring in the association officers other than the presidency.

Section 4 Duties of the officers:

a. *The president* – The president shall preside at all meetings of the association, subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, shall appoint the chairman and members of all standing committees and of any special committees deemed necessary by the Executive Committee. In the absence of the president, the president elect, and in his absence the *vice president* shall discharge the duties of the president.

b. If the presidency should be vacated, that office shall be filled by the *president elect.* The office of president elect shall be filled by the Executive Committee.

c. *The secretary* – The secretary shall issue all notices of meetings; conduct correspondence of the association; and keep a record of all proceedings of the association.

d. *The treasurer* – The treasurer shall conduct the membership drive, keep a roll of members, collect dues and any other moneys due the association, and shall have custody of all funds of the association. He shall disburse the funds of the association in a bank in the name of the Ohio Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association.

e. *The chaplain* – The chaplain shall conduct devotional services at each session of the annual conference.

Article V – Finances

Section 1 The treasurer shall keep the association accounts in such a manner that they may be audited twice a year; at the Annual Conference and at the time that the treasurer's records are transferred to the new treasurer.

Section 2 The treasurer shall pay all expenses incurred in any program approved by the Executive Committee and any other bill of ten dollars or less approved by the president.

Article VI – Districts

Section 1 The state shall be divided into districts. There shall be a chairman and secretary-treasurer for each district. The chairman and secretary-treasurer shall be elected by the teachers of their respective districts at the Annual Conference to serve two years. In the event that the chairman and/or secretary-treasurer should relinquish their offices, their replacements shall be elected at the next district meeting.

Section 2 The duties of the officers of the districts shall be those commonly ascribed to such officers.

Section 3 Changes in district boundaries may be made by a three-fourths vote of the Executive Committee.

Section 4 Odd-numbered districts shall elect officers in odd-numbered years and even-numbered districts in even-numbered years.

Article VII – Executive Committee

Section 1 The Executive Committee shall consist of:

a. OVATA officers;
President
President Elect
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Past President
Chaplain

b. District chairmen of vocational agriculture districts

c. State taxonomy chairmen of each vocational agriculture taxonomy

Section 2 The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year. One meeting shall be held at the time of the annual conference and other meetings as determined by a majority of the Executive Committee or the officers of the association.

Section 3 Local supervisors of agricultural education, members of teacher training staffs and state supervisory staff shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Executive Committee and shall not hold voting power in regard to the Executive Committee action dealing with business items of the OVATA.

Article VIII – Taxonomy Areas

Section 1 Teachers of vocational agriculture and local supervisors of vocational agriculture shall be identified with one of the following areas:

	Number
Production Agriculture	______
Agribusiness Supplies and Service	______
Agricultural Mechanics & Equipment	______
Horticulture	______
Food Processing	______
Conservation & Natural Resources	______
Forestry	______
Agricultural Work Experience	______
Local Supervisors of Agricultural Education	______

Section 2 Teachers in each taxonomy area shall elect representatives to OVATA Executive Committee on a biennial basis.

Section 3 Odd-numbered taxonomy areas shall elect officers in odd-numbered years and even-numbered areas in even-numbered years.

Section 4 Representatives from taxonomy areas having twenty or more major units will have one vote. Those taxonomy areas having less than twenty major units will be represented in an advisory capacity until the number twenty is reached. A major taxonomy unit is .67 or more of 1 unit.

Article IX – Delegates to National Convention

Section 1 The maximum number of delegates to be sponsored by the OVATA shall be limited to the number of official delegates permitted by NVATA.

Section 2 Delegates to attend the NVATA shall consist of the immediate past president, president, president elect, vice president, secretary, treasurer and chaplain. The remaining delegates shall be selected in the following order:

a. First-year district chairmen
b. Second-year district chairmen
c. Taxonomy representatives

This will be in full effect in 1973.

Article X – Voting Privileges at Annual Conference

Section 1 Any member in good standing with the OVATA shall be entitled to vote at the annual business session.

Article XI – Amendments to the Constitution

Section 1 This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of all members present at the regular business session of the association at the annual conference. Proposed amendments must be submitted to the secretary in writing not later than the first day of the conference.

Article XII – Order of Business

Section 1 Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of business except wherein this constitution and its amendments provide otherwise.

Structure of the Association

The membership of the Association which is composed of teachers of vocational agriculture, teacher educators in agricultural education and supervisors of vocational agriculture, meets annually in a four-day conference. The Conference which is largely an in-service training program is under the direction of the officers consisting of the president, vice president and secretary-treasurer, each of whom is elected for a one-year term. Program planning responsibility is cooperatively assumed by the members of the Executive Committee and the teacher education and supervisory staffs. The Executive Committee is composed of the officers of the Association and the chairman of each of the 17 districts in the state. This committee meets as often as is necessary throughout the year to keep the program functioning. Each district chairman is elected for two years with the odd-numbered districts having an election one year and the even-numbered districts electing the next year. This feature provides for an experienced Executive Committee on the part of about 50% of the members.

The Association is financed through the payment of annual dues amounting to $3.00 per member. This fee gives each person a membership in the American Vocational Association and the Ohio Vocational Association, as well as a subscription to the ***Agricultural Education Magazine.***

Each district in the state has the opportunity to determine and conduct its own program. For the most part, these programs are centered around the interests, needs and problems of the teachers. Many of the suggestions for these meetings come from the State Executive Committee and the supervisory staff.

THE PROGRAM OF THE OHIO VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ASSOCIATION

1944 – 1945

by Ralph E. Bender, President
D. R. Purkey, Vice-President and Ralph D. Lemon, Secretary-Treasurer

Teachers of vocational agriculture, like persons engaged in other professions, are more or less organized for the purpose of promoting individual and group interests. Such organizations are based upon the theory that cooperative effort involving the sharing of problems, ideas and work, results in a more effective and attractive program. Probably much of the success of vocational education in agriculture can be attributed to the excellent working relationship that has existed among the group. There is ample evidence of pulling together.

It seems, however, that it is time to take inventory of where we are and whether we are tending toward an extreme shortage of teachers, coupled with the war demands, making a difficult situation that calls for a greater need of organized planning and effort. What are the State Vocational Agricultural Associations doing? How are they functioning?

On the assumption that it is unfair to ask for information that you are unwilling to impart, some details of the Ohio Vocational Agricultural Association are herewith presented. It is not claimed to be an ideal set-up or program, but rather it is a way that is working with some degree of satisfaction in Ohio.

Purposes of the Organization

The purposes of the Association, according to the Constitution are:

1. To promote vocation education in agriculture
2. To coordinate the work of the different departments of vocational agriculture
3. To set up an advisory relationship to supervision and teacher education for the formulation of policies
4. To provide a means for promoting and conducting district activities

PROGRAM FOR 1944 – 1945

OHIO VOCATIONAL AGRICULTURE ASSOCIATION

(First known program)

Developed by: Ralph Bender, Chairman; D. R. Purkey, Vice President and Ralph Lemon, Secretary-Treasurer

	Activity or Goal	Ways and Means
1.	Have an adequate well-planned program	Committee appointed to serve as planning committee, propose a program, send copies to all Executive Committee; discuss, revise and adopt at Executive Committee meeting. Copy sent to each member of the Association.
2.	Each district to plan and conduct a balanced program	Chairman of district to appoint planning committee, propose a program, discuss and adopt as a district, send copy to state secretary by December 1. When all are turned in, he will mimeograph copies including all district programs to be sent to each district chairman. (Suggest that this be done by September 1 as in succeeding years.)
3.	All teachers of vocational agriculture to be organized in county groups	Chairman of the district to appoint a teacher in each county not already organized to call an organization and planning meeting. Name of chairman in each county to be sent to secretary.
4.	Revise the Constitution of the Association	Committee appointed by the president to make revisions to be presented to the Executive Committee and approved by them before being presented at Conference.
5.	Sponsor an annual 4-day summer conference	Program arranged by Executive Committee; ask for a 100% attendance and check on attendance.

6.	Send president and secretary to the AVA Convention	Pay expenses from treasurer's funds.
7.	Organize and conduct a teacher recruitment program	Ask teacher education staff to prepare a statement concerning present teacher supply and demand situation, also a brief statement concerning the factors of competency in teaching – to be sent to all teachers and ask them to use it in their classes. Also keep contact with former teachers and prospective teachers in the Service.
8.	Develop a better understanding of the purpose and function of vocational education among general educators and rural groups	Invite them to attend and participate in some of the district conferences. Ask supervisor to spend more time with the principals and superintendents to discuss purposes and problems.
9.	Have a 100% membership on the part of vocational agriculture in the OVA and OVATA	Collect dues for all organizations at the annual conference. Bring reports from these organizations to the vocational agriculture teachers.
10.	Arrive at a decision on the issue of separate travel pay for vocational agriculture teachers	A thorough discussion to be conducted in each of the districts to get the reaction or vote of the teachers. To be reported to Executive Committee who will make a recommendation to the supervisory staff.
11.	Prepare and distribute a handbook on vocational agriculture in Ohio	Recommend that a committee be appointed by the supervisor to work with the supervisory and teacher training staffs if assistance is needed.
12.	Develop and conduct a program of publicity for the promotion of vocational agriculture	Recommend that an assistant supervisor or teacher trainer be assigned to prepare news releases, film strips exhibits, radio programs, etc. Legislative campaigns to be directed by

		supervisor – suggestions sent to teachers on what to do and how to do it.
13.	Prepare and distribute teaching materials	Prepared by a committee of teachers in cooperation with the teacher education staff.
14.	Make plans and recommendations for participation of vocational agriculture in the State Fair program	Committee appointed to make a report of plans to Executive Committee; discuss the report and make recommendations to supervisor
15.	Make plans for state contests in vocational agriculture for post-war period	Committee to make a study, report to executive group who will make recommendation to supervisor.
16.	Have 100% of FFA Chapters to pay camp contribution	Each district to try to reach goal. Chairman of district to be given facts concerning record in the district. Junior members of Ohio FFA Camps, Inc., to meet at district teachers' meeting.